



THE INDEPENDENT

No 3,649

MONDAY 29 JUNE 1998

(TR50P) 45p

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Scientists to grow human kidneys for transplant

SCIENTISTS HAVE grown new kidneys in the body cavities of laboratory animals in a breakthrough that promises eventually to enable people to grow replacement organs for their own bodies.

The development addresses the two main problems in kidney transplantation: the dire shortage of the organs, and rejection and the use of powerful anti-rejection drugs.

By STEVE CONNOR
Science Editor

The kidneys grew from embryonic cells no bigger than a pinhead and tests have revealed that the final organs functioned normally, although they only reached one-third of adult size.

The scientists also demonstrated that it was possible to take embryonic kidney cells from one species - laboratory

mice - and grow them into fully developed organs in the bodies of a second species - rats.

Medical researchers believe this shows it is feasible to grow kidneys in humans from embryo kidney cells derived from pigs. The result would be chimeric organs - a mixture of human and pig cells - which would be less prone to rejection than fully developed organs transplanted from adult pigs.

An alternative approach would be to transplant cells from human embryos to grow complete human kidneys in a patient, although this would raise ethical objections from some anti-abortion groups.

"The organs look just like normal rat kidneys," according to Dr Marc Hammerman, who carried out the study at Washington University in St Louis. Tiny dots of kidney tissue

from embryos were placed in the space between the skin and the abdominal organs. New blood vessels grew around the organs and within six weeks they had reached one-third of adult size.

"This is the first time anyone has done this. It should not in principle be possible, which is probably why people haven't tried it in this precise way," Dr Hammerman said. Dr Hammerman said that as

yet the new kidneys have only worked at about 1 per cent of normal function, but he believes this could easily be improved to 10 per cent, which is the point at which patients are put on dialysis machines.

Dr Adrian Woolf, head of the kidney unit at the Institute of Child Health in London, said the technique would make it technically possible genetically to engineer the new kidneys to

function better at, for instance, producing the hormones that kidney patients lack.

"Another potential advantage is that foetal tissue itself may be less liable to induce an immune reaction, making them less likely to be rejected," Dr Woolf said. "It's a nice idea but one problem is getting the kidneys to grow to their full capacity." He said he did not believe the problems were insurmountable, however.

Dr Hammerman said it was not possible to predict exactly when the first foetal kidneys would be grown in humans, but he estimated five to ten years.

The shortage of kidneys for transplants is getting worse each year, according to the UK Transplant Authority. Last year, there were 1,635 kidney transplants and 5,600 people on the waiting list at the end of last December.

Troops ready for Ulster flare-up

ONE THOUSAND extra troops are being drafted in to Northern Ireland amid concerns of disturbances at "Drumcree 4" - next Sunday's proposed Orange march along the Catholic Garvaghy Road in Portadown, Co Armagh.

Orangemen claim the parade will this morning be re-routed in a manner which is unacceptable to them, when the Parades Commission hands down its judgement on their application to march.

The prospect of a fourth summer of bitter and damaging confrontation on the streets of Portadown has cast a shadow over the first meeting of the new Belfast Assembly which is to take place on Wednesday.

Of the 108 members elected in last week's assembly poll, almost three-quarters support the Good Friday agreement and its blueprint for the assembly, north-south links, and a wide-ranging programme of prisoner release and changes in policing and the law.

Most of the agreement's supporters were disappointed in the drop in support for David Trimble's Ulster Unionist Party and the accompanying strong showing of Ian Paisley and other anti-agreement Unionists. But Mr Paisley received nowhere near enough votes to stop the assembly functioning as planned.

The final distribution of the 108 seats, following a two-day count, saw Mr Trimble and supporters gaining 30 seats and Mr Paisley and his allies securing 28, with a further eight going to centrist parties. On the nationalist side, both the Social Democratic and Labour Party and Sinn Féin made strong showings, John Hume's party winning 24 seats while the republicans took 18.

On Wednesday, Mr Trimble is expected to become First Minister of the assembly, with Mr Hume as his deputy.

Out on the streets, however, the security forces are concentrating on the prospect of trouble at Drumcree, where the possibility of confrontation means that thousands of police and troops have been deployed in recent years.

Three battalions have arrived discreetly in recent weeks. The troops, from the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and the Queen's Dragoon Guards, are technically under the command of the

By DAVID MCKITTRICK
AND KIM SENGUPTA

Army General Officer Commanding in Northern Ireland. Feelings in Orange circles in Co Armagh are said to be running high, the Orangemen insisting that the march should be allowed despite the opposition of local Catholic residents. Orangeman Denis Watson, who stood for the assembly on an anti-agreement ticket, was elected with a strong showing.

Two loyalist parades passed off peacefully yesterday, although on Saturday a parade in west Belfast resulted in some disturbances.

At the weekend David Trimble called for movement from Sinn Féin on the issues of marching and IRA arms decommissioning. He said: "The republican movement is not delivering the peace that we wanted. Looking forward into the next few weeks I am very concerned about violence returning because of the actions of the republican movement." He predicted a "bumpy ride" for the assembly.

In Ireland, the Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern, said that in his view the assembly was workable, adding: "Clearly there is strong support to make it work. If the Ulster Unionist Party had done a bit better, then things would be a bit easier for Mr Trimble, but the fact is that he is still in a strong position." The Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Mo Mowlam, said the results were not as clear-cut as she would have liked, adding that although the balance of parties was "tight" the assembly had a workable majority.

She went on: "David Trimble has shown great courage and determination and has moved this progress forward considerably and shown himself as a leader of Unionism. I look forward to the progress he and John Hume will make with the other parties."

Martin McGuinness of Sinn Féin described the decommissioning issue as a red herring, insisting that his party was entitled to places on the new executive as a result of its electoral mandate. He added: "It is time for justice. It is time for equality. It is time for Sinn Féin to go into government."

New political map, page 8
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French defender Laurent Blanc (left) celebrating with goalkeeper Fabien Barthez after scoring the first golden goal in World Cup history to give France a 1-0 win over Paraguay, and a place in the quarter-finals

Brown accepts invitation to speak at Murdoch jamboree

RUPERT MURDOCH has invited Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, to speak at his News Corp conference in Idaho next month, re-establishing warm relations after *The Sun's* attack on Tony Blair over the euro.

Mr Brown's invitation was made and accepted last week, at the same time as Mr Murdoch's biggest-selling tabloid in this country attacked the Prime Minister as the "most dangerous man in Britain" for moving towards entry to the European single currency.

That policy is being driven by the Chancellor and the convention in a conference centre at a ski resort will give Mr Murdoch a first-hand opportunity to hear Mr Brown expound his reasons for refusing to rule out Britain's entry.

Relations between Mr Blair

By COLIN BROWN
Chief Political Correspondent

and Mr Murdoch have continued to cause controversy in this country since Mr Blair's speech to the last News Corp convention two years ago on Hayman Island in Australia, laying the foundations which led to *The Sun* backing Labour at the last election.

"It is not a matter of persuading Murdoch. Clearly he does not agree with us but we are not going to change our policy because of what he says," said a Treasury source.

"The Chancellor will be speaking on the British economy and the European economy. Obviously, he will refer to the single currency. We are putting forward the position of the British Government."

That message will be reinforced by Tony Blair in a speech in Frankfurt tomorrow at the inauguration of the European Central Bank. In remarks which may be seen as a further warning towards entry, Mr Blair will tell European bankers that Britain must prepare for the euro.

"He will refer back to the Chancellor's statement last year but what has changed since then is that the euro is happening on time. It is going to have a profound effect on the European community so we have to prepare for it," said a Downing Street source.

Mr Blair last met Mr Murdoch at the funeral of Sir David English, chairman of Associated Newspapers including *The Daily Mail*, but was not told about *The Sun's* plans to attack

his support for the euro. *Sun* staff insisted last week that it was not sanctioned by Mr Murdoch, and there were reports that Mr Murdoch expressed disapproval over the personalised criticism of Mr Blair.

The Idaho convention will be an opportunity for Mr Murdoch and his senior executives - predominantly from California, where he has his television and film empire, and Australia - to give Mr Brown a taste of their Euro-scepticism.

But it will also be a testing time for News Corp executives. "It is very much a kind of hot-house affair. You are on campus for the whole time. They mark you according to which film you see, or what you choose to do in your spare time for your future in News Corp," said one former Murdoch executive.

English fans will be able to drink all day

FOOTBALL FANS will be able to drink all day before England's crucial World Cup match tomorrow following a decision by the French authorities not to instigate an alcohol ban ahead of the clash with Argentina.

The only measure being taken to curb drinking in St Etienne is to close all bars at 11pm this evening. They will be able to reopen at 8.30am on Tuesday and to continue serving until 11pm - after the match is finished - when another overnight ban will be imposed.

It means that fans will be able to drink for 12 hours before the match - and those without tickets will be able to carry on as they watch the game in bars and cafés.

Fears of violence were heightened by England's minuscule ticket allocation, which left tens of thousands of fans without tickets.

MPs last night attacked the decision warning that intense pressure for tickets, combined with freely available alcohol, was a "cocktail for disaster".

Labour MP Tom Pendry, a former shadow sports minister and chairman of the Football Trust, said: "The ridiculous allocation of tickets has already caused a lot of aggravation. We are going to have 30,000 fans

By ANDREW BUNCOMBE
in St Etienne
AND LINUS GREGORIADIS

trying to get into about 2,000 places. There will be a high level of frustration which will mean people looking for drink to find some other outlet for their energies. This is a cocktail for disaster."

Sir Teddy Taylor, MP for Southend East and Rochford, added: "I am outraged by this joke ban. They are asking for trouble."

The measures are in contrast with the strict clamp-down on alcohol at England's last game against Colombia in Lens. Some locals described Lens as a "dead town" on the night but police officials said the alcohol ban imposed there before kick-off helped to prevent hooliganism.

Earlier, the Prefect of the Loire, Jean-Yves Audouin, explained the decision not to ban alcohol sales completely. "The main idea is to discourage troublemakers, who will be dealt with. But we want to keep the festivities going," he said. He added, however, that a ban on alcohol sales was still an option if the behaviour of fans warranted it.

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The Lawrence gang: the questions these men need to answer today

BY KATHY MARES

ON THE fourth floor of an anonymous office block in south London, five young men suspected of killing Stephen Lawrence will today face his parents across a packed inquiry chamber and answer questions about a murder that has threatened the delicate balance of race relations in Britain.

The most burning question did you kill Stephen Lawrence? - has been ruled out by two High Court judges, who said it was outside the inquiry's terms of reference. But the appearance of the suspects before the public inquiry in Elephant and Castle will provide a dramatic climax to three months of hearings into Stephen's death.

Legal argument about the scope of the questioning has been raging for two weeks, and the five will face tough interrogation, particularly from Michael Mansfield QC, counsel for the family, on vital matters related to the murder, such as their movements on the night. They will also be asked about what happened when they were arrested and interviewed by police.

Feelings in the chamber are expected to run high, and police officers will be stationed around the room to head off any violent confrontations.

All five have at various times been charged with killing Stephen, who was stabbed to death by a white gang in a racially-motivated attack as he waited for a bus home in Eltham, south-east London, five years ago. The case came to court in 1996 as the result of a private prosecution mounted by the Lawrence family. Neil Acourt, 22, Gary Dobson, 22, and Luke Knight, 20, were acquitted after the trial judge ruled out identification evidence.

Charges were dropped at the committal stage against the other two, Jamie Acourt, 21, and David Norris, 21, who could in theory still be tried by a jury. However, evidence that they give to the public inquiry cannot be used against them in a criminal prosecution.

Another likely area of questioning today when David Norris takes the stand, is allegations of a corrupt link between the murder squad and his father, Clifford, a local criminal.

They will also be asked whether they are racists, whether they have any black friends and what their views are on ethnic minorities - despite an objection during legal argument last week by one of their barristers that such questions were designed to "rub their noses" over a police surveillance video which captured them fantasising about torturing black people.

Sir William Macpherson of Cluny, the inquiry chairman, has the difficult job of adjudicating on the questions that may be asked by Mr Mansfield and Edmund Lawson QC, counsel to the inquiry, as well as lawyers for Duwayne Brooks, Stephen's friend, who was with him when he was killed, and for the various ranks of police officers. The three barristers funded by the inquiry to represent the men are likely to raise numerous objections.

The High Court, which dis-



Neil Acourt (left), Gary Dobson and Luke Knight leave the Old Bailey, in London, in 1996 after the Stephen Lawrence murder case collapsed when the trial judge ruled out identification evidence

missed a last-minute attempt by the five to avoid answering their summonses, ruled that since the inquiry is concerned with the conduct of the police investigation, it would be wrong to ask them whether they are guilty or innocent of the murder.

Sir William has said that he will not permit them to be asked whether there is any truth in other allegations against them, including allegations of involvement in previous violent attacks in the area.

Among those watching the men give evidence will be Stephen's parents, Neville and Doreen Lawrence, who are convinced that they are his killers.

Their appearance before the tribunal is a security nightmare for police and inquiry staff, who have to chaperone them inside the building while marshalling the crowds of would-be spectators competing for limited seats.

A tight security operation will swing into action this morning. Large numbers of police officers will be stationed outside,

where demonstrations are expected by anti-racist groups. There are fears that the event may also attract members of neo-Nazi organisations.

People who attend will have to pass through recently-installed metal detectors and have their bags searched. Inside the inquiry chamber marshals organised by the Stephen Lawrence Family Campaign will help police to keep order.

The testimony of the five men follows nearly 50 days of evidence by the police officers who failed to bring Stephen's killers to justice. The inquiry has heard that the Acourts, Mr Dobson, Mr Knight and Mr Norris were named by dozens of informants in the local community in the first 48 hours after the murder. No arrests, however, were made for two weeks.

Senior detectives have admitted that they made numerous mistakes in the initial stages of the investigation. Belongings were removed in dustbin bags from the Acourts' house under the noses of a po-

lice surveillance team. Arresting officers failed to search the suspects' homes properly.

Now the tribunal is hoping for some answers from the men themselves, and the laws governing public inquiries require them to respond to all questions put to them. If they refuse, they could be fined or jailed for up to six months.

Sir William reminded lawyers last week of the High Court's ruling that their appearance at the inquiry should not be turned into a criminal trial. But he agreed with Mr Mansfield that the men must not be allowed to use it as an opportunity to "assert their innocence with impunity".

Sir William's task involved "skating on the thinnest of ice", he said. "I readily understand that the Lawrence family's position remains that all five are responsible for Stephen's death. One can understand and sympathise with their position. But everyone must realise that fairness must prevail, whatever one thinks of these men."



Jamie Acourt (left) and David Norris, against whom charges were dropped at committal stage in 1996

THE CASE SO FAR

These have been the key days of evidence in the inquiry so far:

24 March: Edmund Lawson, QC, counsel to the inquiry, opens the hearings with a statement describing the police investigation as "seriously flawed".

30 March: In a statement read out to the inquiry, Neville Lawrence says he was told by a visitor to his house that the suspects were seen washing blood off themselves on the night of the murder.

8 May: Michael Mansfield QC, counsel for the family, alleges that there was a corrupt link between a police officer and Clifford Norris, a notorious criminal and father of one of the five suspects.

13 May: Ian Crampton, who led the investigation during the first weekend, admits that he should have made arrests within 48 hours.

14 May: The suspects announce that they plan to seek leave to apply for judicial review of the decision to call them to give evidence at the inquiry.

15 May: Duwayne Brooks (right), who was with Stephen when he was murdered, tells the

inquiry: "Racist thugs killed Steve and shattered my life."

27 May: Brian Weeden (right), head of the murder squad for 14 months, admits that until recently he did not understand the legal grounds on which police officers can make arrests.

11 June: Neville and Doreen Lawrence give evidence in person. Mrs Lawrence interrupts questioning by a barrister for the Metropolitan Police, asking: "Am I on trial?"

12 June: The High Court grants the suspects leave to apply for judicial review.

15 June: The inquiry watches a videotape recorded by a secret police camera hidden in the flat of one of the suspects, which shows them brandishing knives and expressing violent racist views.

17 June: Speaking through a high-ranking Metropolitan Police officer, Sir Paul Condon, the Commissioner, apologises to the Lawrence family for the first time for the incompetence of the investigation.

18 June: Lord Justice Simon Brown dismisses the judicial review application, but says that the five may not be asked whether they killed Stephen.



Diane Blood tells of joy at dead husband's child

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
Health Editor

DIANE BLOOD yesterday spoke of her joy at being pregnant following artificial insemination with her dead husband's sperm.

She called an impromptu news conference at a pub near her home in Worksop, Nottinghamshire, where she said she was "over the moon" at the long-awaited news. But she refused to reveal when the baby was due or where it was conceived.

Mrs Blood, 33, was supported by the family of Stephen Blood, her husband who died three years ago after contracting meningitis and falling into a coma. She said of her pregnancy: "I found out quite slowly that I was pregnant. It is not an immediate test in the way somebody might know if they were pregnant naturally." Mrs Blood, a marketing executive, said she was still nervous be-



Diane Blood: 'Over the moon' with joy yesterday

cause her pregnancy was in an early stage with the baby due in the "new year".

However there were concerns raised yesterday over the pregnancy which set off a fresh ethical argument about dead people being used as the parents of children. Richard Holloway, Bishop of Edinburgh

and a member of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA), said he wished mother and baby well but added that the case raised "complex" issues relating to the posthumous parenting of children.

Speaking on BBC Radio 4, Bishop Holloway compared the situation of Mrs Blood, who won the right to be fertilised with her dead husband's sperm only after a prolonged legal fight, to that of war widows whose soldier fathers left for the front before their children were born and never returned.

Similar concerns almost certainly explain the nine-month delay that the Belgian fertility clinic, which carried out the insemination, imposed on Mrs Blood before accepting her for treatment. Doctors at the Centre for Reproductive Medicine at Brussels Free University will have wanted to ensure, as far as possible, that Mrs Blood's desire for her dead husband's

baby was not a grief reaction to his death.

Mrs Blood was referred to the Belgian clinic by her doctor in Britain after the HFEA ruled that sperm taken from her husband while he lay in a coma before he died from meningitis in 1995 had been removed without written consent and it would be against the law for her to use it for treatment in Britain. When she applied to export the frozen sperm to Belgium the authority at first refused but in February 1997 it relented after the intervention of the Court of Appeal.

The case provoked widespread criticism of the HFEA and the previous Tory government ordered a review of the law. However, a consultation document issued last year said that changing the law would be more difficult than most people realised.

Ministers are due to receive recommendations following the consultation process soon.

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Doctors told to denounce bad practice

EVERY DOCTOR in Britain is to receive a guide detailing what to do about poor performing colleagues in an attempt to prevent a repetition of the Bristol heart surgery disaster.

Two hundred thousand copies of a new handbook which has been approved by ministers, are to be sent out by the General Medical Council this week setting out doctors' responsibility for preserving high standards and telling them when to report colleagues to protect patients from bad practice.

Every hospital and GP practice will also be required to establish procedures to deal with doctors reported by their colleagues. The guide, called "Maintaining Good Medical Practice", says doctors must "look after and care for" each other but their first duty is to protect patients.

Sir Donald Irvine, president of the General Medical Council, said there could be no guarantee that the disaster which occurred at the Bristol Royal Infirmary was not happening elsewhere. Two doctors were struck off and a third was banned from operating on children at the end of the council's investigation into 29 baby deaths after the doctors were found to have ignored warnings about their high mortality rate.

Sir Donald said: "I can't say it isn't (happening elsewhere). I am sufficiently aware from my experience of the health service and the profession to know there are things that need to be done. The priority is to get

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
Health Editor

good local systems in place so that if things do go wrong people know what to do and where to go.

Sir Donald, giving his first interview since the conclusion of the Bristol case, said the eight-month hearing had been traumatic for all concerned and it would be a "dishonour and disservice to the tragedy" if the lessons from it were not learned. "It was harrowing. It was awful for all of us. I felt for everybody there. Our job was to be objective, to look at the evidence and the evidence was enormously complex."

He said the Bristol case had exposed a hole at the centre of the existing system of self-regulation. It ignored the key role of doctors in monitoring their colleagues. "We used to think regulation was what the GMC and the medical royal colleges did. That misses the point that it starts with the individual doctor, extends to the medical team and to the hospital. The principles of good medical practice have to be embedded in every NHS trust, clinical unit and general practice."

He said the GMC had already been working on extending local regulation when the Bristol case happened, demonstrating in the starkest way why it was essential. "We must not see Bristol as the exception. A lesson would be missed from the tragedy if it were seen in isolation. Bristol

has imparted a sense of urgency and realism [to the need for local regulation]. The public are telling the profession it has got to be sorted out and I think that is right."

The guide says colleagues usually know when a doctor's practice is going wrong and that prompt action offers the best chance of avoiding damage. Most cases should be dealt with at the local level but it gives four examples that should trigger a referral to the GMC.

They include a GP who has refused visits, prescribed erratically and kept incomplete notes; a consultant who showed a lack of skill and responded aggressively to expressions of concern; and a surgeon who carried out a series of operations, some of which were done badly and some unnecessarily, but who was aggressive and uncooperative with a local investigation.

It has emerged that the GMC urged the previous government to hold an inquiry into the events at Bristol before its own hearing began.

The council knew that its own investigation, which had to be narrowly based for legal reasons, would be criticised by parents and others affected whose evidence had to be excluded. However, Stephen Dorrell, the then Secretary of State for Health, announced on 18 March 1997, six weeks before the general election, that the inquiry would follow the GMC case, without consulting the council.

Irvine heals wounds
Review, page 10



Sergeant Martin Spooner reunited with wife Beverley and their children Gemma Cassidy & Leigh Rhys

Rescued army man flies home

AN INJURED British soldier yesterday spoke of his four-day ice storm ordeal on top of Mount McKinley after arriving back in Britain.

Sergeant Martin Spooner, who flew back into Gatwick airport yesterday, had fallen down a snow chute during an army-organised charity assault on North America's highest mountain.

He spoke of how he and Corporal Carl Bougourd had both endured freezing temperatures and 75mph winds before they were eventually rescued six days ago.

Disaster first struck the eight-man expedition at 19,000ft, just three hours away from the summit, when the ropes that held the sergeant and two other climbers became separated.

Sgt Spooner, of the Army Physical Training Corps based in Crickhowell, South Wales, fell, tearing ligaments in an ankle. When the rest of the team realised he was unable to continue, Corporal Bougourd, 35, of the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, volunteered to stay with him while others went to get help. Both men then had to wait four days for weather conditions to allow a rescue helicopter to approach.

The corporal is still recovering from frostbite in hospital in Anchorage, Alaska.

At Gatwick yesterday, Sergeant Spooner spoke with gratitude of the rescue operation that saved their lives. He explained that the helicopter had initially dropped two survival suits.

"About 2.40am they made a final pass and picked us up and

BY VANESSA THORPE

took us straight off," said Sergeant Spooner. "We had to grab on to each other and away we went. It was quite a rush."

Sgt Spooner said neither man ever gave up hope, although they had no radio contact or food. "There was no negativity," he said. "It was just a waiting game."

He and Cpl Bougourd talked about family and friends as they got colder and weaker, and they built a snow wall to protect themselves from the elements.

The sergeant said they were never frightened and added in explanation: "There were no bears up there!"

Sergeant Spooner was greeted by his two children Gemma, 11, and Rhys, 13, and his wife, Beverley, who told her husband she did not want him to return to the mountain.

Despite his ordeal, Sergeant Spooner, 35, has already indicated that he hopes to make another attempt on Mount McKinley one day.

The team's leader, Captain Justin Featherstone, also flew into Gatwick yesterday and defended the organisation behind the expedition.

"It was an accident on a mountain. There was nothing in the planning and execution of that that we could have done differently."

"There are no heroes, but everyone in the team performed fantastically well to help one another."

Captain Featherstone, who has climbed Mount McKinley once before, insisted that every member of the team got something out of the experience.

'Fat cat' Yorkshire Water chiefs get 30% pay bonus



Kevin Bond: £55,000 bonus taking pay to £298,000

THE MEN who run Britain's most controversial water company have been awarded 30 per cent bonuses sparking a new row over industry "fat cats".

Government insiders yesterday made clear their anger at the decision of Yorkshire Water to ignore pleas from Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, for wage restraint.

"The Chancellor has made it clear on numerous occasions the need for wage responsibility in the private as well as the public sector," a Treasury spokesman said.

Yorkshire Water first outraged its 2.5 million customers

BY LOUISE JURY

by failing to maintain supplies in a 15-month "drought" in 1996. It later warned customers they faced being cut off if they had a bath.

But the just-published annual report claims standards have improved significantly and directors are being rewarded as a result.

Kevin Bond, the 47-year-old chief executive, has been awarded an extra £55,000 on top of his basic salary of £185,000. He also received benefits worth £58,000, making a total package of £298,000.

The managing director, Jonson Cox, received a bonus of £41,000 in addition to his £135,000 salary and £16,000 benefits. The finance director, James Newman, who only joined on 5 January this year, was given a £10,000 bonus for his work to 31 March. Staff have been awarded £432 profit-related pay.

But Yorkshire's 2.5 million customers have been less lucky. In February, the company announced price increases of 8.1 per cent for unmetered homes and 6.1 per cent for those with meters.

Prices for the last year were

kept at inflation rate by the water regulator Ofwat as a penalty for the previous "drought".

The directors' bonuses announced by Yorkshire Water come amid growing concern about inflationary pay rises.

High wage rises in the private sector was one of the factors specified by the Bank of England for the recent interest rate rises. And a Treasury spokesman said the Chancellor's view was clear: "This month's pay rise is next month's mortgage rate rise."

But a Yorkshire Water spokesman said their policy

on directors' remuneration packages was set after a detailed review. It was the market average for equivalent jobs in the sector.

"It is important that the company attracts and retains the right calibre of director," he said. "This is in the best interests of both customers and the standard of service they receive and of shareholders in relation to returns that they receive."

Standards had improved, he said. Although Yorkshire Water received more than 8,000 complaints in the year to March, this was a reduction from 13,000 in 1996-7.

However, more people are complaining directly to Ofwat, which will next week report a 12 per cent increase in the numbers of Yorkshire Water problems it has been asked to investigate.

A Department of Trade and Industry spokesman said they were examining the possibility of a clampdown on salaries in the privatised industries.

The Green Paper on the utilities published earlier in the year suggested ministers might want to investigate linking the pay of the boards of the privatised utilities more closely with customer standards.



Gordon Brown: Call for pay restraint ignored



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FA fails to win extra World Cup tickets

WORLD CUP ticket misery continued for England fans yesterday as it was revealed that just 30 extra seats had been allocated for tomorrow night's crucial match against Argentina.

Tony Banks, the sports minister, last night joined the Football Association in condemning the allocation and demanded a thorough review of ticketing arrangements for future World Cups.

Despite appeals for more tickets by the FA, the official al-

BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE
in St Etienne
AND LINUS GREGORIADIS

location for England supporters - the smallest of the tournament for England games so far - stood at just 2,079. Alarmingly, 20,000 England fans are expected to arrive in St Etienne today in the hope of purchasing tickets.

Mr Banks said: "It is very disappointing indeed. It is crucial that at the end of this World Cup, the governments of

different countries sit down with FIFA and ensure that this sort of arrangement does not happen again.

"The reason it's so important is that this has security implications. There may have been moves to have segregation within the stadium, but with so many tickets on the black market that segregation falls apart."

The FA's spokesman in France said last night: "We feared it would be as tight as this. Had we been playing Croa-

tia, we might have had more tickets, but Argentina have taken up their full allocation."

Though more than 30,000 tickets at the 36,000-capacity Stade Geoffroy-Guichard have been sold to French fans, a large proportion are expected to find their way into the hands of English supporters via the black market.

In spite of small ticket allocations, venues for England's first round games were packed with English supporters. Reports from St Etienne last

night said touts were charging up to £750 for a ticket for the game. Prices, and demand for tickets, are likely to rise should England progress further in the tournament. Parked cars and lampposts were covered with fliers advertising ticket arrangements for the game.

Keith Cooper, FIFA's communications director, insisted the policy had been made public as long ago as 1995, and that exceptions could not be made for individual teams. He said:

"The system of ticket distribution is laid down in the regulations, there for everybody to read since February 1995, in co-operation with the European Union."

"In this particular case, and at any of the other games, how are you possibly going to distribute a large number of tickets within 24 hours? You do know the pairings of the first round matches but you don't know the pairings of the second round matches."

While there may be a huge demand from England, had it been Romania playing there would not have been a huge demand. If you set aside 20,000 tickets for English fans you would also have had to set aside 20,000 tickets for Romanian fans - and then you would have been sitting on 19,000 unwanted tickets... The only way to do this is the way it has been done."

The Football Supporters' Association criticised the FA for not questioning the ticketing system when it was revealed

three years ago. Steve Powell, the FSA's spokesman Steve Powell said: "They did nothing when FIFA first announced the system of allocating tickets."

"Were they paying attention? I don't think so. Did they care? I don't think so. The interests of the fans, who are fundamental to the World Cup, are being forgotten. They seem to be more concerned in the corporate fat-cats than the fans."

World Cup, Sport, pages 28-32

Sticky end as revellers emerge from the swamp

THE MUD BATH also known as the Glastonbury Festival drew to a close last night with thousands facing a tortuous escape back to civilisation.

Two days of heavy rain was set to cause severe delays as festival-goers tried to move their modes of transport home from fields thick with mud.

The torrential downpours also disrupted Saturday's Wimbledon and the tribute concert to Diana, Princess of Wales at Althorp Park with Sir Cliff Richard and Chris de Burgh.

But it was more than 100,000 music fans in the fields of the village of Pilton, Somerset, who suffered the worst effects of the unseasonal weather.

Some left early while others shivered on as 100 contractors began work on a £250,000 operation to dry out the site and make the exit roads usable for the end-of-festival exodus.

Yet even with nearly 700 reported crimes and drug seizures, Michael Eavis, the organiser, acclaimed the event the best yet. "Wherever I go, and I've been out in the mud myself, the spirit and culture of the people that come here means they rise above it for some strange reason," he said.

Even Radio 4's The Archers joined in. Millions last night heard the programme's rebel teenager Kate Aldridge give birth in a Glastonbury tepee in scenes recorded live at the site

BY JOHN DAVISON
AND LOUISE JURY

during the day. Two real-life labours were among nearly 1,500 cases at the two on-site medical units, run by the charity Festival Medical Services.

Ankle injuries from falls in the mud were a more common problem alongside a return of feet problems caused by the wet.

A 20-year-old woman was airlifted to Frenchay Hospital, Bristol, after suffering a severe epileptic fit.

Sunshine did break out yesterday, but it was far too late to stop the swamp-like conditions.

Similarities to a Flanders battlefield were evident. "Why are we here? I don't know. I love it and hate it at the same time," said Dave from London, suitably attired in combat boots and jacket. "It does your head in. All this marching about in mud and all this noise - we might as well be in the bloody army."

The consensus was that the mud was actually not as bad as last year. It was ankle deep in most places, as opposed to knee deep. But the rain was a lot worse.

Still, the rainbows were spectacular and people danced and smiled, despite all. Some even played football in front of the main Pyramid Stage. They got mud-smothered.

Torrential rain on Friday



A festival-goer takes to the mud as steam rises from the crowd at the Pyramid Stage

Tom Pilstan

night did most of the damage and created the worst crisis that anyone could remember. Hundreds returned from celebrating England's football triumph to discover their tents washed out.

The Women's Royal Voluntary Service mounted an emergency operation, commandeering one of the huge performance marquees as a haven with heaters and a supply of dry clothes from local charity shops and 2,000 space blankets.

"It was the biggest single

emergency I've ever seen," said Mary Tracey, organiser of 163 welfare volunteers and a veteran of 15 festivals.

Stacey, 17, did not even have a tent anymore. The friend she came with had had enough, taken it and gone.

"I stayed because I'd paid £80 for a ticket and thought I'm going to enjoy myself anyway," the Hertford teenager said. "Now I feel like booking into the nearest B&B and calling my parents to come and get me. I just want to cuddle my mum."

Hillsborough families sue

THE GROUP representing the families of victims of the Hillsborough disaster yesterday began legal proceedings against two former senior South Yorkshire police officers.

As part of a private prosecution, Ann Addington, solicitor for the Hillsborough Family Support Group, laid information before South Sefton magistrates' court in Bootle, Merseyside, against former Chief Superintendent David Duckenfield and former Superintendent Bernard Murray, alleging three offences.

The first allegation is that on 15 April 1989, they unlawfully killed John Alfred Anderson and James Gary Aspinall, two of the victims of the Hillsborough disaster.

It is also alleged that the two men "willfully neglected to carry out a public duty on that day", and that "David Duckenfield intended to pervert the course of justice when he lied about the circumstances in which Gate C [of the Hillsbor-

BY MELANIE HARVEY

ough stadium in Sheffield) became open".

Summonses issued in respect of the charges were understood to have been served yesterday.

The two former officers are obliged to appear in the magistrates' court to answer the charges on a date to be arranged.

A South Yorkshire Police spokeswoman said the force had no comment to make about the private prosecution.

Hillsborough Family Support Group chairman Trevor Hicks said no comment would be made about the proceedings at this stage.

It is the first private prosecution the group has brought as a result of the disaster at Sheffield Wednesday's Hillsborough football ground in April 1989.

A total of 96 football fans died as a result of a crush on the terraces at the Leppings Lane end of the stadium.

IN BRIEF

Legionnaires' disease clean-up

CAPITAL CRUISING, the owners of a luxury cruise ship at the centre of a suspected Legionnaires' disease outbreak, said yesterday they will pay for the clean-up operation.

Work continued to disinfect the water supply of SS Edinburgh Castle, which docked at Greenock on the Firth of Clyde, yesterday. Two people who had travelled on the ship this month and in April both came down with Legionnaires' disease but have since recovered.

Dome entry fee 'too high'

THE ORGANISERS of the Millennium Experience risk missing their target number of 12 million visitors to the dome if they charge £15 per ticket, a think-tank warned yesterday. A Centre for Economics and Business Research report predicts around 10.6 million visitors. According to CEBR, setting an adult ticket price of £10 could attract an extra 1.1 million.

Crimea medals go for auction

THE MEDALS of two brothers who fought in the Charge of the Light Brigade during the Crimean War are to be sold at auction. On October 25 1854, Cornet Maxwell Goad was injured at Balaklava and later in the day his brother, Captain Thomas Goad, was killed. The brothers' Crimea and other medals are expected to fetch £5,000.

Six share lottery

SIX WINNERS each won £1,024,299 in last night's National Lottery draw. The winning numbers were 11, 43, 9, 7, 23 and 30.

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CATEGORY	NO. OF WINNERS	AMOUNT FOR EACH WINNER	TOTAL EACH TIER
Match 6 (Jackpot)	6	£1,024,299	£6,145,794
Match 5 plus bonus ball	36	£22,528	£811,008
Match 5	1,736	£579	£1,005,781
Match 4	83,227	£31	£2,580,037
Match 3	1,318,180	£10	£13,181,800
TOTALS	1,403,186		£24,979,420

Total Sales including Instant and Wednesday Draw: £59,057,356.
Total week's contribution to Good Causes: £26,990,000.

Breakage (prizes rounded down to nearest £1): £21,224.
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Children enjoying a swimming lesson at public baths in Newcastle

North News

Safety fears save school swimming

SWIMMING WILL continue to be compulsory in English primary schools but teachers will be able to choose whether they teach pupils athletics and football.

Ministers are believed to have taken the decision to preserve swimming after warnings that more children will drown unless a legal requirement remains in force.

New curriculum guidance to be announced this week is expected to allow schools to decide for themselves which other activities they teach during PE lessons, though they will be advised to continue with at least some games and athletics.

The decision is in sharp contrast to that taken by Peter Hain, the Welsh education minister, last week. He announced that running, throwing and jumping as well as swimming would be compulsory to protect

BY JUDITH JUDD
Education Editor

children against heart disease.

Earlier this year, David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, decided that, from September, legal requirements for the primary curriculum would be reduced so that schools could spend more time on literacy and numeracy. Detailed programmes, he said, would be compulsory only in maths, science and English. In the remaining six subjects, including PE, teachers would be free to choose what they taught.

Critics accused him of narrowing the curriculum and threatening the future of subjects such as music, art and PE. He pointed out that schools would still be legally obliged to teach all these subjects. At present, swimming is one of six skills taught in PE. The others

are games, gymnastics, athletics and outdoor and adventure activities.

Ministers decided to make an exception of swimming after a campaign by the Amateur Swimming Association and the English Schools Swimming Association who argued that many schools were facing real difficulties in organising swimming lessons in times of financial hardship. If the law were changed, they might drop the subject altogether. Swimming's supporters said that the sport was a special case because it saved lives as well as keeping children fit.

John Lawton, director of education at the Amateur Swimming Association, said: "Children from disadvantaged backgrounds and some ethnic minorities do not learn to swim outside school. If children don't swim at school we shall end up

with a generation which has never had the opportunity to learn."

Ministers, who have come under pressure from well-known musicians and artists, are anxious to emphasise that music, art, history, geography and technology must remain on the timetable: teachers will be able to choose topics from the existing curriculum. The approach is different from the one adopted by Welsh ministers and civil servants who have decided that some skills and topics are too important to be left to chance. True to Welsh choral traditions, singing a variety of songs with control of breathing, dynamics and pitch will remain compulsory for five to seven-year-olds. In history, Celtic Society must still be taught to juniors but teachers may opt for Tudor or Stuart Wales.

Golfers hit by a new handicap

THE GENTLE rub of checkered sweater against middle-aged skin may be the cause of a new complaint, according to doctors - Golfer's Nipple.

The new golfing handicap, identified recently at University Hospital, Nottingham, is caused by the friction generated during the interaction of swing, sweater and chest.

In extreme cases, particularly among men who are overweight, the traumatised nipple becomes a bright orange-red colour and may swell up. It is thought that in the past it may have been sometimes mistaken for other, more serious conditions.

Doctors at the hospital, who detail the condition in the British Medical Journal, say Golfer's Nipple should now be added to a list of other sporting hazards which include Rower's Rump, Tennis Elbow, Jogger's Urine, and Darter's Wrist.

Dr Eric Sahian and senior registrar Dr Irshad Zaki report the case of a 34-year-old man who came to the hospital with a tender right nipple and who at first was thought to have a serious disease.

"It became apparent that the lesion was the result of repeated trauma while playing golf. A minor modification to his swing led to complete resolution of the irritant dermatitis," they say.

They add, "Sporting activities expose the skin to a wide variety of risks, and Golfer's Nipple should be added to the list."

Professor Greg McLatchie, professor of sports medicine at Sunderland University and a keen golfer himself, says: "It is probably an irritation of the nip-

BY ROGER DOBSON

ple caused by the rotation of the arm on the back swing which causes the clothes to rub across the nipple. It is probably most common in larger men and in women who don't wear support. For someone who plays a lot of golf it could be very sore indeed."

He details a list of complaints that might encourage even the most ardent sports man or woman to take a long course in sofa-warming.



Sweaters are blamed for causing Golfer's nipple

"Jogger's Nipple is a similar type of problem, and Rower's Rump is a result of sitting on the hard seat causing pressure symptoms on the bone at the bottom of the pelvis."

"There is also runner's diarrhoea caused by the gut moving about during running, and joggers can get blood in their urine as a result of the walls of the bladder slapping together as they run," he says.

As if that wasn't enough, he said new research had also shown that golfers' repetitive swinging actions put them at risk from stress fractures of the ribs.

ADAIR TURNER

'The Sun launched its broadside against even joining the euro with lurid stories of a £34bn cost to go in'

— THE MONDAY REVIEW, PAGE 4 ➔

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Porton Down may be sold off

PORTON DOWN, the Ministry of Defence chemical and biological defence establishment, is being considered for privatisation by the Treasury as part of its plans to raise money for public expenditure from the sale of public assets.

The secret nature of Porton Down's work would make the sale highly controversial, and guaranteed safeguards would be needed if it went ahead.

Whitehall sources confirmed last night that Porton Down was being considered under the sale of the Defence Evaluation Research Agency (Dera) which runs the chemical and biological establishment in Wiltshire.

The sale of Dera, which also runs the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough in Hampshire, where it is based, is backed by its management. It employs around 12,000 people and has a turnover of around £1bn a year.

Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, stunned Labour MPs and caught the City by surprise earlier this month when he announced plans to sell off a stake in the National Air Traffic Service, the Tote, the Royal Mint, and the Commonwealth Development Corporation.

The Defence Evaluation Research Agency is one of the most successful of around 40 agencies carrying out work in the public sector for the Ministry of Defence.

The aerospace industry would be interested in its expertise in testing and repairing aircraft, and the possible profits to be made from a long-term defence contract. It car-

BY COLIN BROWN
Chief Political Correspondent

ries out government business worth an estimated £800m a year, with another £100m in the private sector.

George Robertson, the Secretary of State for Defence, has been under intense pressure from Alistair Darling, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, to offer more MoD assets for sale as part of his strategic defence review.

The Treasury team has been trying to cut more than £1bn off the £22bn defence budget, and Mr Robertson has needed the support of the Prime Minister to beat off some of the assaults on his defence programmes.

Dera is listed as one of three "trading funds" with the UK Hydrographic Office and the Meteorological Office under the MoD in the Treasury's national assets register. It says the assets at Porton Down include accommodation, test facilities, and laboratories. The agency also owns six wind tunnels, 16 satellite facilities, tank-testing tracks, a radio station, a fire station, jetties, and sea ranges across Britain.

Ministers fear that the wholesale privatisation of Dera could jeopardise its commercial links with US government laboratories. One minister was reported to have warned the Treasury that the Americans would "not play ball" with Dera if it was privatised.

Government sources said no decision had been reached about the sale.



Around 90 energy-efficient homes such as this one in East Molesey will be built in Sutton if the brown-field plan is approved Mykel Nicolaou

The house that looks after itself turns a rubbish dump green

A THREE-ACRE former dump for sewage and industrial waste known as "Land East of London Road, Sutton" may seem like an unlikely focus for a revolution in ecologically sound urban living.

But if a joint bid by one of Britain's biggest housing associations and the Bio-Regional Development Trust is successful tomorrow, this is what is planned for the distinctly brown-field site.

The site will form the home of the ZED - the Beddington Zero Energy Development -

BY OLIVER TICKELL

which aims to be almost self-sustaining. Energy-efficient design, photo-voltaic solar panels and a 350-kilowatt combined heat and power (CHP) plant, burning tree-surgery waste, would make the proposed development self-sufficient in energy.

"By maximising natural heat and light from the sun and by using heat from normal domestic activities like cooking, heat energy requirements will be just 10 per cent of normal

homes of similar size," explains Chris Twinn, associate director of consulting engineers Ove Arup.

"The CHP plant will produce enough heat and power for all the houses and offices, and a grid connection will allow us to sell any excess electricity and draw in extra to meet peak demand."

A "total water strategy" for the ZED involves water-saving devices, rainwater collection for gardens and flushing lavatories, and a four-stage sewage treatment plant designed by the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust

with 1,500 square metres of reedbeds and fast-growing willow coppice which, says WWT wetlands ecologist Matthew Millett, would itself provide fuel for the CHP plant.

Commuting to work by car is the typical household's second-biggest energy drain, so the ZED plan includes 1,700 square metres of serviced offices with IT connections.

"This will make it possible for self-employed people to work near their homes and create a tele-commuting centre for other workers, saving en-

ergy and improving quality of life," says Bio-Regional director Pooran Desai.

To help create a good living environment in the high-density ZED, each of the 90 or so townhouses, maisonettes and flats will have its own area of garden or roof terrace, designed by architect Bill Dunster.

The developer, the Peabody Trust, London's biggest and oldest housing association, is investing £10m in the project, to be recouped by housing sales, office rental and use of 20 housing units for social lettings.

Farmer sues on genetic dangers

BY LOUISE JURY

AN ORGANIC FARMER backed by environmentalists has launched legal action to challenge the government over trials of genetically engineered crops.

Lawyers have started judicial review proceedings over concerns that a Ministry of Agriculture-sponsored research institute is carrying out genetic trials next to the organic farm of Guy Watson in Devon.

Mr Watson, supported by Friends of the Earth and the organic farming group the Soil Association, fears weedkiller-resistant genetically engineered maize could contaminate his organic crops.

The Soil Association has indicated Mr Watson could lose his organic certification if his produce is contaminated.

Lawyers hope that the application for a judicial review will be accepted and expedited because they claim the maize is due to pollinate in July. That would be the moment of maximum risk of cross-contamination. The legal action follows claims from the Friends of the Earth (FoE) that the National Institute for Research in Botany (NIAB), which is carrying out the work for the government at Dartington, does not have permission to release genetically engineered organisms into the environment.

Robin Maynard, for FoE, said the Government was allowing the experiment to take place "in flagrant disregard of its own rules". Richard Young, of the Soil Association, said: "It is totally unacceptable that genetically-engineered crops can be allowed to contaminate or impair organic farming."

Neither the NIAB nor the Ministry of Agriculture were available for comment last night.

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More children than ever working as prostitutes on Britain's streets

BY JASON BENNETTO
Crime Correspondent

THE NUMBER of teenagers secretly working as prostitutes throughout Britain has been vastly underestimated, according to disturbing new research.

Police have also discovered in one city that punters have been picking up boys for sex directly from children's homes, despite social workers' concerns that 14- and 15-year-olds were selling their bodies.

In the most detailed research of its kind, two pilot schemes in Nottingham and Wolverhampton have spent the past year contacting about 125 child prostitutes aged from 11 to 18.

A leading expert in prostitution said yesterday that the study showed that there may be two or three times more child sex workers in Britain than previously thought.

He added that the problem had been "massively" underestimated and attacked the authorities for ignoring the proven links between children's homes and prostitution.

The Children's Society is teaming up with other charities in the next few months to carry out a nationwide survey to discover how many young people are involved in paid sex. Barnardo's, the children's charity, will launch a campaign to highlight the plight.

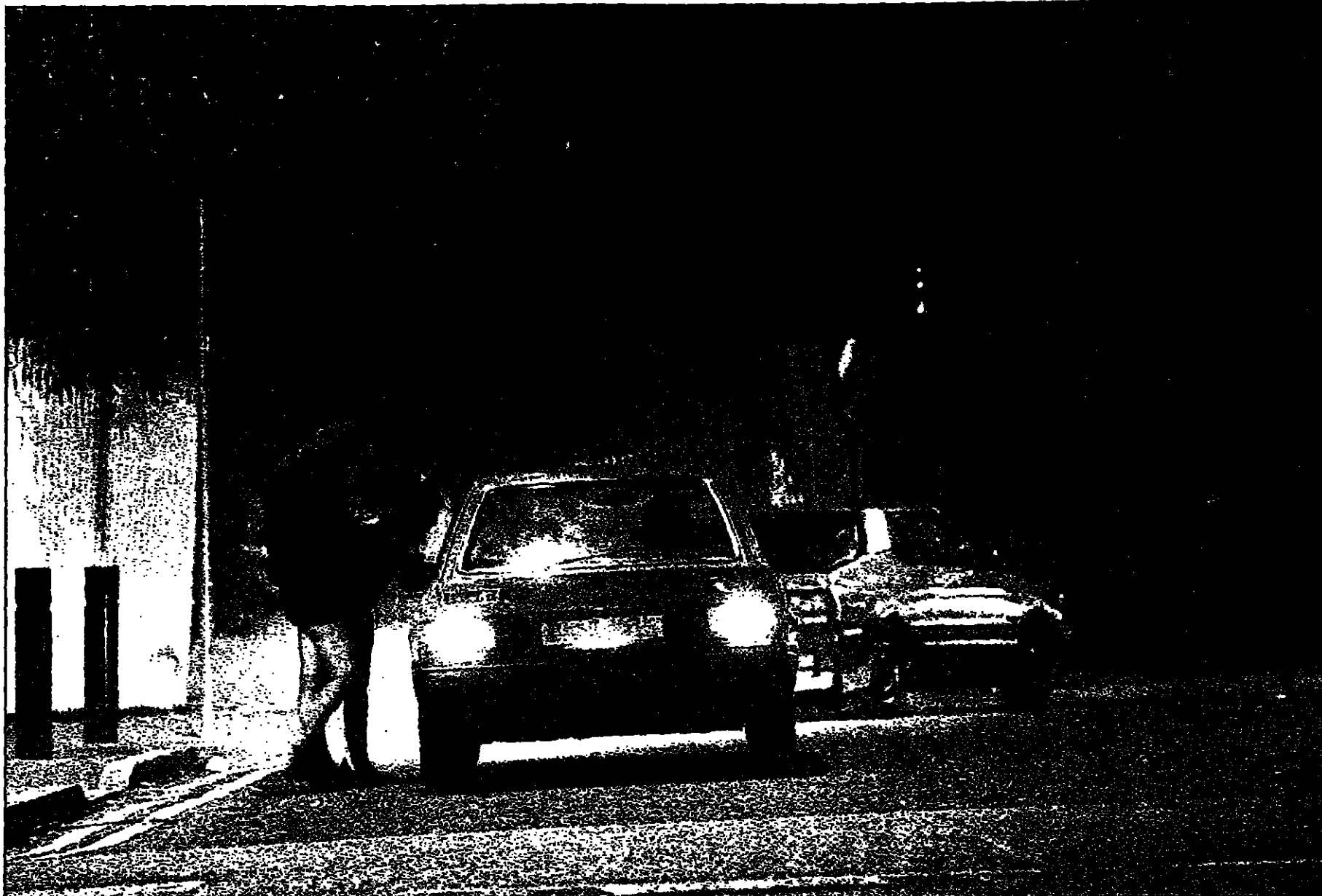
Early results from two pilot projects run by police vice squads in co-operation with social services in Wolverhampton and Nottingham, in which child prostitutes are being treated as victims of crime, have uncovered disturbingly high numbers of male and female teenagers selling sex.

In Nottingham, the police found about 50 girls, mostly aged 14 and 15, involved in prostitution, almost all working on the street charging from £20 to £30 for full sex.

They also discovered about 20 rent boys offering sex for "a bag of chips, £5, £10, or a room for the night", according to Sergeant Pete Parchment of the vice squad. More than half were in residential care and they tended to operate from cafes and clubs and via contacts.

Sgt Parchment said they also found that four men - believed to be punters or pimps - were picking up boys directly from three children's homes run by the local authority in Nottingham.

"We were getting calls from social



A prostitute looks for business - according to new research there may be two or three times more child sex workers in Britain than previously thought

workers saying they had suspicions that the men were taking them away to have sex, but they were doing zilch about it," he said.

He said the boys were aged about 13 and 14. "They were in care for abuse and the men were driving up to the homes to pick them up. The care workers felt that if a child was leaving with an older man they did not have the power to do anything," he added.

The police have since written to

the four men warning them to stay away from the homes. The men have not been back, but none has been prosecuted.

"This project has opened eyes about the scale of the problem," Sgt Parchment said.

Sue Gregory, service manager of children protection at Nottingham city social services, said: "We have been educating our staff that dangerous adults will target vulnerable children. We have made it clear that

the children should only have contact with trusted adults."

In Wolverhampton, the police contacted 55 female prostitutes aged from 11 to 18. Fifteen gave witness statements to say that they had been forced into prostitution and 23 told the police the same thing, but would not make a formal complaint. Inquiries have led to 18 adults being charged with crimes such as rape, unlawful imprisonment, kidnap, assault and living off immoral earnings.

It is now believed that this pattern of child prostitution and the underestimation of the scale of the problem is repeated in all Britain's major cities.

Professor Roger Matthews, of Middlesex University social science

department and the author of several studies on prostitution, said: "The number of young people who have some kind of involvement in prostitution is massively underestimated. The problem is that a lot of it is not particularly visible - much of it goes on behind closed doors or via networks of contacts."

"This latest research suggests that the actual number is probably two or three times greater than we suspect or is officially recorded."

The young outsiders

Darren, of Newport: WHEN DARREN was 12, his father started beating him and his mother. He stopped going to school and met a man who allowed him to stay at his house during the day, before long he was coerced into performing sex. Too frightened to tell his parents, Darren ran away and was eventually placed in a foster home, but spent most of his day in the town centre where men would offer to pay him for sex. At 14, the Children's Society helped find him a more suitable children's home.

Christine, of London: CHRISTINE RAN away from home at the age of 14 after fights with her parents. She was befriended by a man in his early twenties, but after about a month he complained that she was not earning any money and became aggressive. He introduced 'friends' to her and she was pushed into having sex with them for money. She ran away but was caught and beaten. After about a year, Christine went to a charity and she was placed in care.

Michelle, of Manchester: MICHELLE WAS sexually abused by a relative but was not believed. At 12, she was placed in local authority care. She was bullied, ran away, started to use drugs and began to sell her body on the streets. At 15, she was arrested for soliciting and given a conditional discharge. Charity workers helped her get a place in a women's hostel.

Gillian, of Newport: FROM THE age of four Gillian was sexually abused by her mother's boyfriend. She was moved to a foster family at the age of 10. By 12 she was in a children's home. In her teens, she agreed to provide a man in his fifties with sex in exchange for accommodation. She has since moved out and now lives alone.

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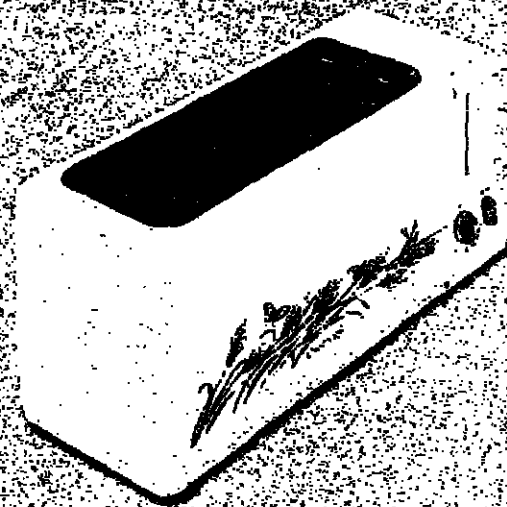
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Staff at the auctioneers Christie's in London carrying Andy Warhol's portrait of Judy Garland (1978), which goes on sale this week. The silk-screen ink and polymer work is expected to fetch £90,000-120,000 Emma Boam

Britons wage war on opium crops

BRITISH SCIENTISTS are advising on a project to create a fungus which destroys opium poppies, as part of the world-wide war against the international heroin trade.

The strain will allow the plants to develop but will decimate the quantity of opium they can produce, thereby ensuring that growers spend time and money guarding a useless crop.

A virulent strain of *Fleospore popoviraceae*, a fungus which looks much like the black fuzzy powder that grows on stale bread, was isolated by scientists at the Institute of Genetics in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The centre is on the rim of the "golden crescent" area of Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan where much of the world's heroin is grown. Plans are being drawn up to produce large quantities of the fungus in industrial fermenters so that it can be sprayed over or released near the opium fields.

British experts were reported this weekend to be advising Uzbekistan on how to culture the fungus, but a spokesman for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF) could not confirm that the Government was funding part of the cost, estimated to be £300,000.

The United States Government is also said to be involved in the project, a revelation that might be used as propaganda by Islamic fundamentalists who could legitimately claim that the West was involved in attempts to wage biological warfare on poor farmers in the region.

Dr Jeff Waage, director of the International Institute of Biological Control at Ascot in Berkshire, said that the United Nations had been investigating a range of fungi that could be used against opium poppies and other illicit drug crops. "In principle, you could produce the naturally occurring diseases of poppies artificially and I understand this is what they are doing. There are about four or five commercially available fungal herbicides which do much the same job on weeds," he said.

Although the institute has worked with the UN's anti-drug programme, Dr Waage denied that it had "vetted" the research. He said the institute did not get involved in specific projects because of the fears that this may jeopardise the safety of its researchers who work in countries with organised drug gangs.

"We don't know anything of the Tashkent people and I don't understand the reported link with Britain. We've never heard of MAFF funding any of this work. I'm quite concerned that there are suggestions that we are implicated because this may put our people at risk in places such as Peru or Colombia," he said.

Scientists in Uzbekistan are reported to have already tested the virulent strain of the fungus on poppy fields. They found that the fungus caused the poppy plant to erupt in lesions and fungal spores quickly spread between the plants to decimate the entire crop.

The former Soviet Union had a highly secret biological weapons programme which could have supplied much of the expertise for the project. Soviet scientists are known to have worked on anthrax weapons in breach of international treaties, as well as producing biological agents that could be used to destroy enemy crops.

'Canterbury Tales' may fetch £700,000

BY DAN FINEMAN

A RARE FIRST edition of Geoffrey Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*, printed in 1477, is expected to raise up to £700,000 at auction in London next month.

The book, the most complete copy seen at auction this century, is one of only 12 first edition copies still in existence and the last to remain in private hands. It is one of five books printed by William Caxton, England's earliest typographer, to go under the hammer at Christie's on 8 July.

Eight rare books, estimated at more than £1.25m, will be auctioned. They form part of the chattels settlement of Olive, Countess Fitzwilliam, formerly at Wentworth Woodhouse. As well as *The Canterbury Tales*, considered to be the greatest work of Middle English literature, the sale includes a copy of *The Recuyell of the Histories of Troye*, the first book to be printed in the English language, with an estimated value of £300,000.

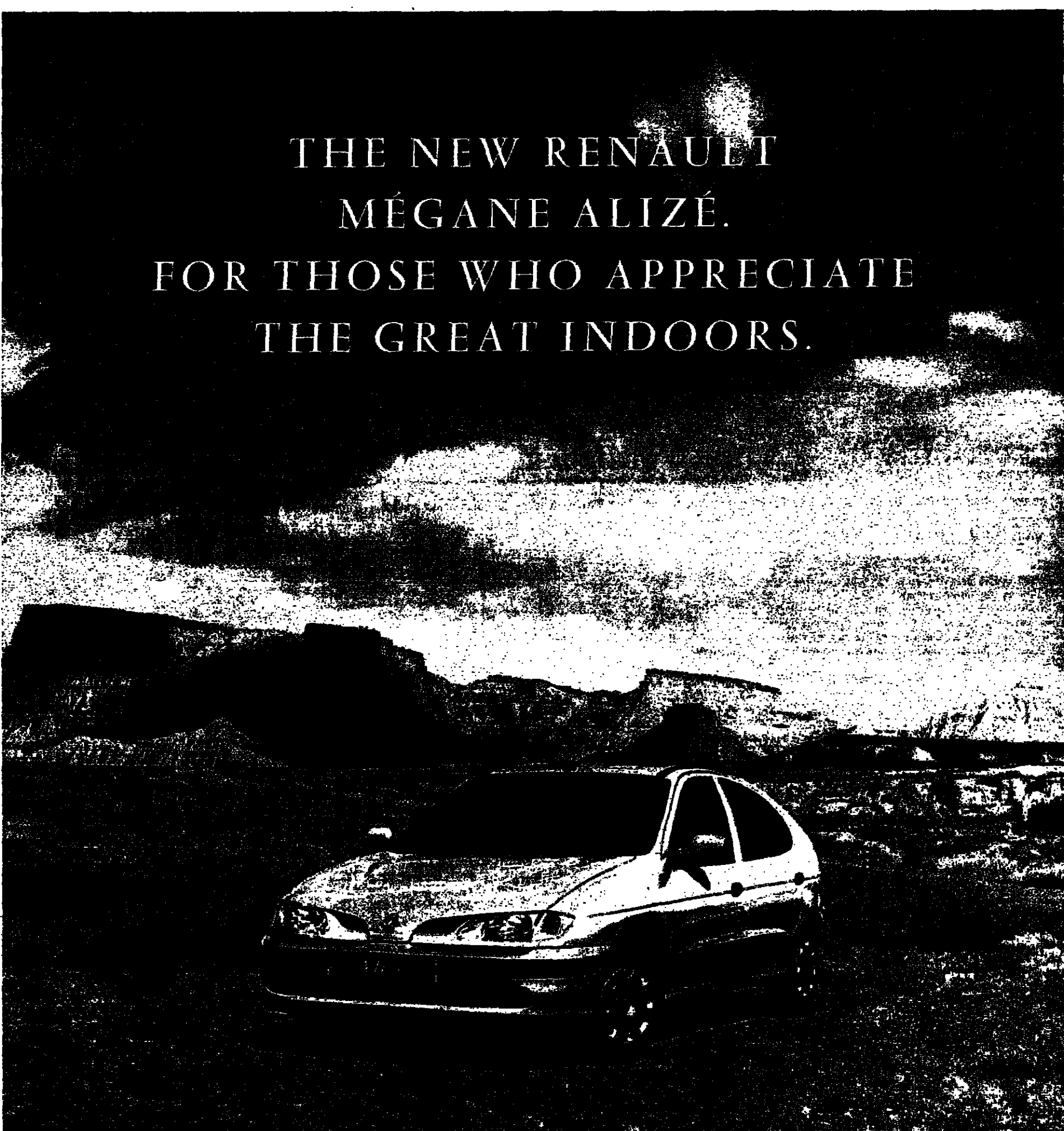
Caxton, Britain's first printer, translated the *Recuyell* from the original French, and it was his first production as a printer in Bruges in 1473. The first illustrated printed book in England, *The Myrrour of the World*, translated and printed by Caxton in 1481, is also on

Five French Chaucer's of Middle English...
The first edition of *The Canterbury Tales*...
The book is the first scientific publication printed in England. Among its many illustrations are two woodcuts which constitute England's earliest printed maps.

A page from the edition of *Canterbury Tales*, printed by William Caxton in 1477

sale, and is expected to realise more than £120,000. A medieval compendium of geography, astronomy and other physical sciences, the book is the first scientific publication printed in England. Among its many illustrations are two woodcuts which constitute England's earliest printed maps.

A unique 1497 first edition of De Worde's influential treatise on equine medicine, *Prophytes & Medicynes of Horses* - a must for 15th-century horse owners - will also go under the hammer.



Junk mailshots hit record levels

THE AMOUNT of junk mail pouring through letter boxes has reached record levels, according to new research. Most people receive about three pieces of direct mail a week - up from two items in 1996 - and it accounts for just under half of all items received by post.

But nearly one in four items received goes straight in the bin, and the amount which is read fell from 63 per cent two years ago to 59 per cent last year.

Men receive more junk mail than women, and those on higher incomes are targeted more than lower-income families. About 17 per cent of people receive more than six mailshots a week.

Insurance companies are responsible for the most direct mail, followed by credit card firms, mail order companies, charities and book clubs.

However, Jo Howard-Brown of the Direct Marketing Information Service, which carried out the research, said it was encouraging that despite the rise in the amount of mail being sent out, the amount binned had not changed. She said: "Direct Mail is increasingly losing its 'junk mail' image and is being accepted as a credible part of the overall marketing mix."

ANNE MCELVOY
'William Hague's enemies are exulting: he is sick, which means he's a wimp, which means he should not lead the Conservative Party'
— THE MONDAY REVIEW, PAGE 4 →

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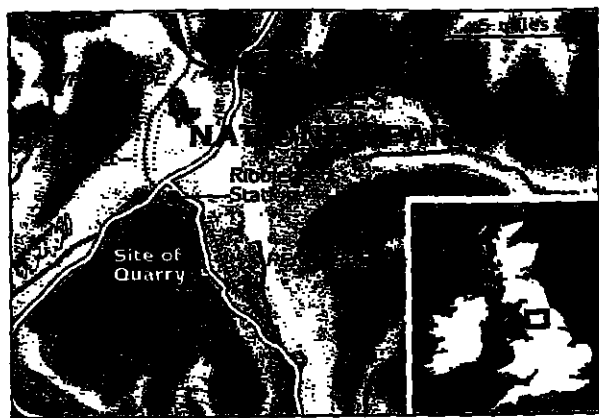
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Quarrying in beauty spots to end



THREE OF Britain's top five quarrying companies are this morning publicly renouncing their rights to extract stone from nine sensitive sites in the National Parks.

ARC, Aggregates Industries and Tarmac are together giving up well over 30 million tons of mineral reserves which, they say, will not now be taken out of two quarries in Snowdonia, four in the Peak District and three in the Yorkshire Dales.

Their move follows a promise last week by the quarrying industry to put its operations in National Parks on a more environmentally friendly basis - recognising that this was its Achilles' heel in terms of public acceptability.

Environmentalists greeted the move with a mixture of astonishment, wariness and delight. "It's a really positive initiative that they've embarked upon, and very encouraging," said Ruth Chambers, minerals campaigner for the Council for National Parks pressure group.

"It will save a lot of park landscapes from damaging development," the council's director, Vicki Elcoate said. "This is a landmark decision for the National Parks."

The three big firms are each pledging that they will not reopen currently dormant quarries where they have planning permission to do so, and in two cases, not seek an extension to permissions that are coming to an end.

BY MICHAEL MCCARTHEY
Environment Correspondent

One of the sites in particular, Ribblesdale in the Yorkshire Dales, has the potential to cause enormous damage if it were worked. Lightly quarried in the past, it sits in the "three peaks" of Ingleborough, Wharfedale and Pen-y-Ghent. Working the full permission currently held by ARC, Britain's second largest quarrying company, would leave an enormous gash on Ingleborough's north-eastern slope, visible for many miles, besides destroying much of the stunning limestone pavement - the landscape feature associated with the area.

Ribblesdale, along with two other sites, will never be quarried again, said Simon Vivian, ARC's chief executive, and chairman of the Quarry Products Association, the industry's umbrella body.

"If prohibition notices are served by the respective National Park authorities, we will not contest them. This will effectively rescind our planning rights without compensation." Planning authorities have rarely used prohibition orders in the past for fear of long and expensive legal battles.

ARC says it is giving up its right to take 23 million tons of limestone from Ribblesdale, as well as smaller amounts of rock from nearby Helwith Bridge and from Arenig quarry near Bala in Snowdonia.



Robert Hestertine, chairman of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, vaulting a dry stone wall at Ribblesdale, which will never be quarried again

Steve Forrest

Aggregate Industries, the fifth biggest company, is announcing that it will not revive the dormant Hartshead quarry in the Peak District and not

apply to extend the life of either Isle of Skye quarry, also in the Peak, and Cool Scar quarry in the Yorkshire Dales, both of whose planning permissions are set to expire within four years. The company has also gone further and says: "Within existing boundaries of the national parks, the company will no longer submit applications under any circumstances for new green-field mineral workings, or submit applications for the lateral extension of any existing quarry outside the currently consented boundaries of the site."

"We recognise the particular sensitivity of quarrying in the National Parks," said David Tidmarsh, Aggregate Industries' managing director.

"That is why we have effectively announced today the beginning of the end of our activities there."

The companies' decisions follow a National Parks initiative announced last week by the

Quarry Products Association during Minerals 98, the industry's Publicity Week, which had been denounced by Friends of the Earth as a "public relations exercise for an unsustainable dinosaur industry".

The association said the industry would work with Government and the National Parks authorities to let planning permissions be removed from dormant quarries, clarify those which are uncertain, and not apply for new permis-

sions except in particular circumstances.

The idea was largely pushed through by John Mordimer, an executive of ARC, and the Minerals 98 chairman, who had realised that for all the restoration work minerals companies now carry out, quarrying in

cherished and highly protected landscapes such as the National Parks is always likely to be treated with hostility by the public. The Peak District and the Yorkshire Dales are the two

park's most under assault. Green campaigners were generally surprised and very pleased with the news, although wary as to the fine detail and as to what other companies might do.

"It's a very good step, a bold step to take, and we would welcome it," said Dave Bent, senior minerals planner for the Peak District National Park.

"The interesting thing is, what's going to happen with the other companies?"

George Harrison tells of battle with cancer

GEORGE HARRISON, the former Beatle, has been treated for throat cancer, but was given a medical all-clear last month. He has blamed his illness entirely on an on-off smoking habit.

The 54-year-old multi-millionaire had to undergo radiation therapy for several weeks following surgery last summer to remove a small tumour in his neck. "I'm not going to die on you, folks, just yet. I am very lucky," he is reported to have

BY VANESSA THORPE

said at the weekend. "Sometimes, if you say the word 'cancer' everybody automatically thinks it will end in misery, but it's not always the case."

"I was very lucky because it didn't go anywhere - all it was was a little red mark on my neck."

Harrison, the youngest Beatle, first noticed the lump last July while gardening in the grounds of Friar Park, his 200-

room home at Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.

The operation to remove the tumour was carried out at the Princess Margaret Hospital in Windsor in August and was followed up with two weeks of radiation therapy at the Royal Marsden Hospital. The treatment was designed to destroy any surrounding cancerous cells.

"The lump was basically a disruption to a cell," said Harrison. "I got it purely from

smoking. I gave up cigarettes many years ago but had started again for a while and then stopped in 1987."

"Luckily for me they found that this nodule was more of a warning than anything else. There are many different types of cancerous cells and this was a very basic type."

Further radiation therapy began at the Royal Marsden Hospital in September, and in January the guitarist and composer travelled to the Mayo Clinic in the US for tests which revealed that the cancer had not returned.

Harrison, who went back for further tests last month, said: "I went back and was given the final all-clear - a clean bill of health. Some people are lucky."

He shares his Oxfordshire mansion with his second wife Olivia, 47, and their 19-year-old son Dhani. The couple have been married for 20 years.



Harrison: 'Very lucky' that the cancer had not spread

with a little film producing. His HandMade Films successes include *The Life of Brian*, *Private Function*, *Withnail and I* and *Mona Lisa*, but in 1994 he sold the company for £5m after profits slumped.

He has also played in several all-star rock line-ups including the Travelling Wilburys with Bob Dylan, and indulged his passions for motor-racing and the music of George Formby.

He shares his Oxfordshire mansion with his second wife Olivia, 47, and their 19-year-old son Dhani. The couple have been married for 20 years.

Customs victory over bootleggers

BY IAN BURRELL
Home Affairs Correspondent

BOOTLEGGERS ARE abandoning their favoured white Ford Transit vans for Volvo estates and Range-Rovers in an effort to fool Customs officers into thinking they are returning from family holidays on the continent.

The cross-Channel smugglers have been forced to change tactics because Customs officers are seizing their vehicles at a rate of 60 a week.

The 2,929 vehicles captured last year represented a 500 per cent increase in three years.

The organised gangs, which cost the Government nearly £1bn a year in lost revenue, are even taking children and elderly relatives in order to disguise the purpose of their trips.

Norman Taylor, a senior Customs officer in the intelligence and enforcement division, based at Dover, said: "Because they have been

forced out of the vans to some degree they are trying to get in with the holiday traffic."

Although many of the seized vehicles are subsequently returned to their owners, on payment of a £250 fine, increasing numbers are being confiscated and sold at auction by Customs.

Following a crackdown announced in April by Dawn Primarolo, the Financial Secretary, vehicles caught being used for smuggling on three occasions are automatically forfeit. But Jacqui Lait, the Tory MP said that these measures did not go far enough. "I think it is scandalous that the vehicles are given back to the smugglers at all."

By switching from Transit vans to Volvos, Granada Ghias and four-wheel drive vehicles,

the smuggling gangs hope to reduce their visibility.

But Mr Taylor said: "The beer is so heavy that the vehicles are all back on their springs. They are bouncing along and it is often quite clear the vehicle is being used for smuggling." He said the bootleggers had also started smuggling alcohol and tobacco by freight. A single container of cigarettes would be worth around £100,000 in unpaid tax.

"To be able to smuggle by freight the gangs need to find a commercial driver," said Mr Taylor. "We are looking very closely at the freight traffic to see if it's a new vehicle or a new driver or a new company."

He said lorry drivers returning from the continent were being approached by gangs to take consignments of alcohol or tobacco in empty containers or hidden among other goods.

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Tories study proposals to privatise party HQ

THE TORIES are considering privatising part of their headquarters in Smith Square, central London, under cost-saving measures being carried out by Archie Norman, the deputy chairman and former boss of the Asda supermarket chain.

Conservative Party sources confirmed last night that they were considering privatising the management of party headquarters, with its membership organisation, fund-raising

BY COLIN BROWN
Chief Political Correspondent

through membership fees and clerical services.

"There is a precedent for this. We have already privatised our conference arrangements," the source said.

Conference arrangements were subcontracted to a company specially set up to carry out the work. Mr Norman welcomed proposals by Graham

Mather, the Tory Euro-MP, to privatise Conservative Central Office as "an interesting contribution to this vital debate".

Mr Norman said: "The reforms of Central Office have one goal - to create a world-class political campaign centre."

Mr Mather has warned that cutting staff might "demoralise and concern remaining staff left fearful for their own futures". He also suggested that the party's spin doctors in the

press office should be privatised, along with the development of policy by the research department. But the party source said that these two tasks are unlikely to be put in private hands. "We would have to be sure of the security around policy," he said.

The party is advised by two separate Tory sources to embrace a policy of Lords reform, and to avoid being made to seem reactionary by the Gov-

ernment's proposed changes to the Upper House.

Tory leaders have criticised the Government for failing to put forward reform proposals beyond removing the right of hereditary peers to sit and vote in the House.

Andrew Tyrie, Tory MP for Chichester and a former Treasury adviser, and Nick Kent, of the Tory Reform Group, have both called for the party to support an elected upper chamber.

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112 killed as earthquake hits Turkey

A BUS lay caved in under a slab of concrete, which used to be the roof of a neighbouring building. A digger slowly manoeuvred the slab off the bus. "We don't know if anyone was inside when the bus was hit," said a policeman holding back the crowd of onlookers.

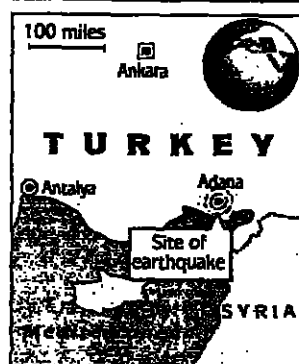
This was the scene in the main square of Ceyhan yesterday afternoon.

Ceyhan is a small town, about 50km east of Adana, the largest city in southern Turkey. It was Ceyhan that took the worst of the earthquake which hit the area at 4.55pm on Saturday afternoon.

So far 112 people have been reported dead, of whom 44 were in Ceyhan. According to local officials, another 1,000 have been injured, of whom 266 are in hospital. The Turkish President, Prime Minister and Deputy prime Minister all rushed to Adana to inspect the damage.

Ceyhan was still in shock yesterday. Rubble lay everywhere, while shattered buildings spilled on to the street. Most of the people stood and watched the rescue operation in complete silence.

BY JUSTIN HUGGLER
in Adana



"The ground shook, buildings were rocking from side to side for, maybe 20 seconds. Masonry was falling all around," said Ismet Apak, an old man dressed in traditional Turkish costume.

Sertan Ciger, a 20-year-old student, came to Ceyhan from Adana yesterday. "I came to find out about my aunt and uncle - I think they may be dead," he said.

Dr Ornel Onal, who is co-ordinating medical aid for the provincial governor, said he expected the number of deaths to rise as more bodies are found. More than 80 rescue workers are still searching the area.

In Adana, a shattered minaret jutted into the sky. The damage here was less extreme than in Ceyhan, though buildings were destroyed and the city's old quarter was damaged.

Here it was business as usual, and the taxi drivers vied with each other to give journalists guided tours of the damage.

Adana is not used to being the centre of attention. Although it is Turkey's fourth-largest city, with more than a



Workers struggle to find survivors of the earthquake which killed at least 112 people in Turkey

AP

million people, it is well off the tourist trail in spite of its proximity to the Mediterranean.

Elsewhere, there were slight tremors in the resorts along the Mediterranean coast, but hotel managers said tourists were not unduly alarmed.

In the office of the provincial governor at Adana there was chaos. Ardahan Tutuk, the deputy governor, was trying to coordinate plans to distribute food to those made homeless by

the quake. Meanwhile, the Turkish president and the premiers were driving up the rock-strewn road to Ceyhan to inspect the damage.

The presence of such high-profile visitors did not convince everyone of the government's good intentions. Some were furious that the excavation was halted so that President Suleyman Demirel could inspect what was going on.

"The state looks after the

rich. They've been sent to hospital. They have done nothing for the poor," said one woman whose home was in a building that was reduced to a pile of rubble. "That building housed 38 people and took 30 seconds to collapse. There was a 15-year-old killed in there. Now we've got nothing, we're in the hands of God".

But other voices blame the poor themselves for at some of their plight. "They come in

from the villages and build without permission on government land. They want to build quickly so they don't build proper foundations," said Gurbuz Aynaz, a hotel worker in Adana.

Adana does not lie on any

known fault lines, and the latest disaster will fuel a growing sense of anxiety in Istanbul, Turkey's biggest city with a population of more than 10 million. Statistics indicate that a big earthquake is likely in the desperately overcrowded city within the next decade. In Adana and Ceyhan, locals were preparing for a difficult future. "We are clearing up" said a young man in a grocery, "but the job will never be finished."

President set limits to Lewinsky affair

THE ALLEGED affair between Monica Lewinsky and President Clinton did not go beyond foreplay because of the strict limits set by Mr Clinton himself, according to a friend of Ms Lewinsky, quoted in today's edition of the magazine *Newsweek*.

Dale Young, 47, a long-standing friend of the Lewinsky family, quotes Ms Lewinsky as saying that Mr Clinton broke off the relationship in September 1997 for the sake of his wife and daughter.

Ms Young testified last week to the grand jury, hearing preliminary evidence in the Lewinsky case. She subsequently recounted some of what she said to *Newsweek's* investigative reporter, Michael Isikoff.

It was Isikoff's report of the alleged affair between the President and the former White House trainee that precipitated the crisis for the President

BY MARY DEJEVSKY IN
WASHINGTON

when it was posted on the Internet in January.

According to Isikoff, Ms Lewinsky told Ms Young of her relations with the President during a hike in Upstate New York on a holiday weekend in May two years ago. She says Ms Lewinsky told her: "I can't stand it, I've got to talk to you. I've got to tell you what's going on, but please don't tell anyone."

She told of intimate touching in a small study off the Oval Office and "sexually charged" late-night phone calls. She admitted to contriving encounters with Mr Clinton and detailed presents she had given him, including a tie and a book.

"But," Ms Young says, "nothing was ever taken to completion... it was basically like foreplay." Ms Lewinsky's explanation, according to Dale

Young, was that Mr Clinton "didn't trust anybody... people who he's been involved with have gone to the media, they have gone to their lawyers. He felt it really wasn't oral sex if it wasn't completed".

This latest account of the alleged relationship between the President and Ms Lewinsky sees the light of day on the eve of the first appearance before the grand jury of Linda Tripp, Ms Lewinsky's former friend who secretly taped their conversations. Ms Young's account appears to explain Mr Clinton's televised denial: "I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Ms Lewinsky."

Of the break-up, Ms Lewinsky apparently told Ms Young of a tearful Mr Clinton who said that he "wanted Chelsea to be proud of him and he wanted to be a good husband and he didn't want to do anything like this anymore".

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A Yugoslav army guard of honour fire their guns during a ceremony marking the 609th anniversary of the battle of Kosovo

Petar Kujundzic/Reuters

Portugal split over easing abortion law

VOTERS WENT to the polls yesterday in a national referendum on whether to permit abortion on demand, a deeply divisive issue in the overwhelmingly Catholic country.

Under existing Portuguese law, termination of pregnancy is permitted only for strictly defined medical reasons or in cases of rape, and only until the 12th week. People will decide whether abortion on demand through the 10th week of pregnancy should be "decriminalized," which in effect will eliminate current prohibitions.

Teresa Cardoso, a 45-year-old Lisbon newspaper seller, said she had voted yes because abortion was the lesser of two evils. "I think it's more criminal to allow a child into the world knowing that it won't have decent living conditions," she said. Others remained split on the issue. The National Assembly, Portugal's parliament, has been debating the abortion issue for the past 14 years - since left-wing parties first won enough seats to press for a discussion.

Parliament in February approved a bill relaxing abortion restrictions, but the bill's opponents successfully pushed for the national ballot which will either overturn or ratify that legislation. An intense two-week campaign leading up to the ballot featured marches in big cities and a nationwide media blitz. Abortion rights activists, mostly the younger generation backed by left-wing politicians, say they want to end the estimated 16,000 illegal abortions each year in Portugal, a nation of 9.5 million people. Government statistics indicate that each year about 10,000 women are treated at hospitals following botched illegal abortions. Women can be imprisoned for up to three years for having an illegal abortion.

Opposition to the easing of the current law has come from older Portuguese, backed by the still-influential Catholic church. While the "yes" camp is favoured to win, voter-intention polls have shown its support drop over the course of the campaign to about 50 per cent from 60 per cent. The referendum's result will be binding only if more than half of registered voters participate.

BY BARRY HATTON in Lisbon

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US talks to Kosovo warriors

THE UNITED STATES yesterday announced it had held talks with the shadowy army which is waging war against Serbian rule in Kosovo.

Richard Holbrooke, the trouble-shooting diplomat who made a four-day tour of the region last week to try to stop the war from spreading from Kosovo through the proverbial Balkan tinder box, said the US had started talking to the Kosovo Liberation Army at an undisclosed location in Western Europe.

The US negotiator was the US Balkan envoy Robert Gelbard while his KLA partners could not be named, he said.

The announcement, at Crans Montana, in Switzerland,

BY MARCUS TANNER

land, where Mr Holbrooke returned after fruitless talks with Serbia's president Slobodan Milosevic, will not only stun the Serbs, who say they are battling "terrorism", it will also shake supporters of moderate Albanian nationalists in Kosovo, led by Ibrahim Rugova.

Mr Holbrooke insisted Washington was not dropping its support for Mr Rugova. But that pious aside could not disguise the fact that Mr Holbrooke's announcement was a clear acknowledgement by Washington that it now recognises the KLA, not the moderates, as the real power on the ground in Kosovo with which Serbia - and the

world - will have to deal if the war is to be stopped.

It is an astonishing turn-about for the KLA. Only months ago Serbia's grip over the province, 90 per cent of whose population is Albanian, looked unshakable, while rumours of the existence of bands of fighters attacking Serb police patrols seemed no more than Serb propaganda.

Today the KLA controls about 30-40 per cent of Kosovo's territory.

In the province yesterday, Western diplomats said they believed a major battle was about to open for the strategic village of Kijevo, astride the main road leading from the provincial capital, Pristina, towards the

south-west. KLA forces have held the Serb village in a state of siege for 10 days and, after rejecting demands to withdraw over the weekend, Yugoslav army tanks and troops were seen moving into the conflict zone. Yugoslav planes also evacuated Serb civilians from Kijevo at the weekend - another sign that a battle may be about to commence.

In Switzerland, Mr Holbrooke said he feared the deadlock over Kijevo could end in carnage. "If he [Mr Milosevic] opened the checkpoint at Kijevo by force, there would be tremendous bloodshed and you would know about Kijevo as a place that could have triggered a wider war," he said.

"We are only a few steps away from a general war." Television reports from neighbouring Albania quoted the KLA as saying they would let the Serb civilians leave Kijevo if the police and Yugoslav army withdraw from three vital positions in the area.

Kijevo has emerged as a possible site of what diplomats fear will be a third deadly offensive in Kosovo. The last Serb offensive, near Decani, in western Kosovo, triggered an exodus of tens of thousands of Kosovo Albanians into northern Albania and caused massive material damage. The precise death toll has not been established.

In another sign that Mr Ru-

gova's position was being completely marginalised, several of his allies in his political party, the LDK, were reported to have quit and set up a group that will act as the KLA's political wing. It will be called the Albanian Democratic Movement.

The American decision to throw their weight behind direct talks with the KLA holds big risks, one of the biggest being that no one really knows who runs the KLA or how - indeed whether - its command structures operate.

Mr Holbrooke admitted this. "The contacts were with people who said they had this authority [over the KLA], but at this point that authority remains to be demonstrated," he said.

Croats bury victims of Vukovar massacre

NOT TOO far from the latest flashpoint of Kosovo, a trumpet sounded farewell to 56 victims unearthed from one of the largest mass graves in the former Yugoslav conflict.

The solemn send-off in the eastern Croatian town of Vukovar on Saturday was attended by senior government and church officials, and ended a nine-week ritual of exhumations and mass funerals in an overgrown field surrounded by woods.

Over the nine weeks, workers with shovels and picks turned up 938 bodies, almost half reportedly civilians.

Some of the victims were found with hands bound behind their backs by rope or wire. Others

BY EUGENE BRICIC

revealed bullet wounds to the rear of the skull - an indication of summary executions.

It was in Vukovar seven years ago that the gruesome Balkan scenes first surfaced. Tens of thousands of people were killed in the six-month Serb-Croat war that came after Croatia declared independence from Yugoslavia in 1991.

Three former Yugoslav army officers and a local Serb mayor have been indicted by the UN War Crimes Tribunal on charges of slaughtering 261 patients from a hospital. Those bodies were buried in a mass grave at Ovcara, a ravine on the outskirts of Vukovar.

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Clinton's words stun TV millions

NEVER BEFORE has China's head of state offered such gripping live political entertainment. The country's 1.2 billion people, most of whom have access to a television, switched on to see President Jiang Zemin engaged in robust debate with President Bill Clinton over taboo political subjects - the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre, the Dalai Lama and the importance of individual human rights. Yesterday ordinary Chinese were reeling from the experience.

Chinese Christians gathering at Chongwenmen church, where Mr Clinton attended Sunday morning service, were eager to talk about the televised 70-minute joint press conference on Saturday.

"It's good for the Chinese people, Jiang Zemin said that he and Clinton could disagree, and that this was democracy. Maybe we also have disagreements with Jiang Zemin, and we can talk about them in the future," said a 34-year-old Peking lawyer.

One elderly woman admitted she had been amazed to switch on China Central Television (CCTV), the state network, and see the debate. "It's the work of God," she said.

"Chinese leaders nowadays are more open-minded than before," said another.

The blunt, but good-natured, exchange of views between the "leader of the free world" and the head of the last major Communist power was remarkable in itself. The fact that China Central Television decided at the last moment to transmit the whole press conference live on national television was astonishing in a country where the state-controlled media never

BY TERESA POOLE
in Peking

contradicts official policy and there is no public political debate.

To Americans, it was reminiscent of 1988, when Ronald Reagan was shown addressing Moscow University on the importance of political freedom.

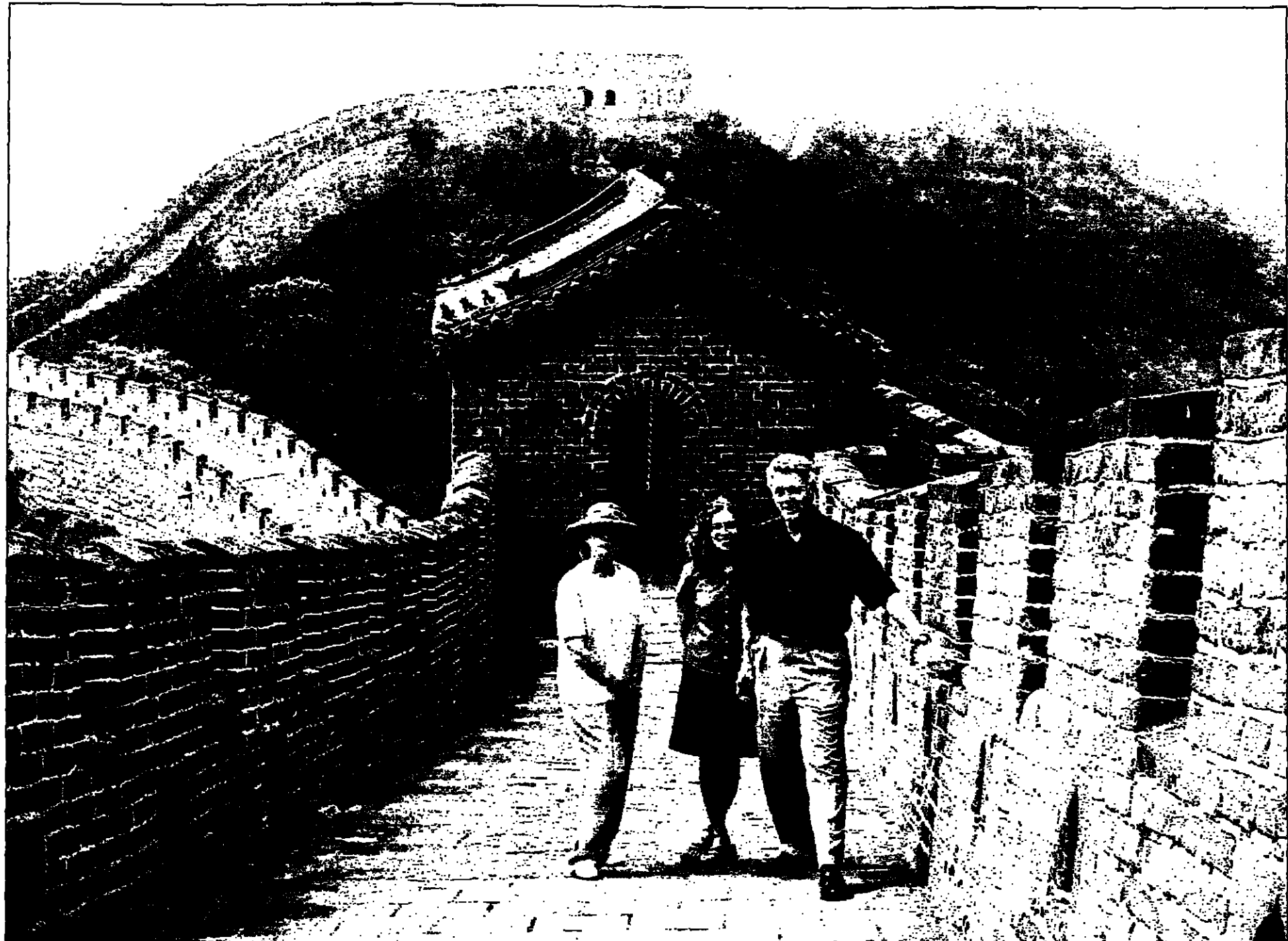
The immediate test for this new "open-mindedness" comes this morning, when Mr Clinton is due to speak about human rights at Peking University, traditionally the seat of political activism in China. It remains to be seen if CCTV will oblige with another live domestic transmission.

Yesterday's Chinese newspapers printed only sanitised reports of the joint press conference, censoring all of Mr Clinton's most pungent remarks. Evening television news programmes similarly showed only edited excerpts.

But on Saturday, Chinese viewers saw the US president forthrightly criticise the events of June 1989, when hundreds of pro-democracy demonstrators were killed. "I believe, and the American people believe, that the use of force and the tragic loss of life was wrong," said Mr Clinton, standing just 10 feet from President Jiang.

It was the first time the mainland Chinese media had carried any criticism of the government's decision to send in the troops. Any Chinese citizen who publicly voices such sentiments is likely to be detained.

"I believe, and the American people believe, that freedom of speech, association and religion are, as recognised by United Nations charter, the right of people everywhere and should



President Clinton poses with the First Lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton, and their daughter, Chelsea, during a visit to the Great Wall of China near Mutianyu Gary Hershorn/Reuters

be protected by their governments," said Mr Clinton, who also outlined proposals for more releases of political prisoners.

Responding to Mr Clinton on June 1989, Mr Jiang simply repeated the official mantra. "With regard to the political disturbances of 1989, had the Chinese government not taken the resolute measures, then we could not have enjoyed the stability that we are enjoying today," he said.

Then there was the question of Tibet. To a Chinese audience taught to loath the Dalai Lama as a traitor and a "splittist", it

was at least startling to hear a Western leader describe the exiled Tibetan leader as "a holy man". When the joint press conference wrapped up with both men laughing at Mr Clinton's suggestion that the Chinese president and the Dalai Lama "would like each other very much" if they met, many viewers had to pinch themselves.

An unexpected aspect of the spectacle for Chinese viewers was to see their own president, a wooden performer, joking and looking relaxed as he fielded questions about China's political prisoners and human

rights. "I think President Clinton is a strong defender of the American interests. And I am a strong defender of the Chinese interests," he said, raising a laugh. "Despite that, we still can have very friendly exchange of views and discussions. And I think that is democracy."

The press conference followed a two-and-a-half-hour summit meeting, the outcome of which was more symbolic than substantive. An agreement to de-target nuclear weapons from each other's cities and resumption of a human rights dialogue were the

main results - except for the extraordinarily warm rapport which the two leaders seemed to establish.

The question is where does all this lead? Who took the decision for CCTV to broadcast? Does President Jiang realise how his reputation will have been enhanced by the decision, both inside and outside the country?

This evening Mr Clinton flies to Shanghai, the third stop on his nine-day state visit. At least one activist has already been cleared out of town ahead of his arrival, and US officials hope there will not be another row

about dissident detentions. The four dissidents detained in the city of Xian, Mr Clinton's first stop, had all been released by last night.

Such behaviour is unlikely to change, and amid the euphoria surrounding the televised press conference, it was easy to forget that most of Mr Jiang's remarks came straight from the propaganda handbook.

One of the questions had concerned those detained in Xian, individuals who had agreed to be interviewed by foreign journalists.

Mr Jiang said: "There is no restriction whatsoever on the

coverage and interview by the reporters and correspondents within the scope of the law.

"But as for some activities that have been detrimental ... then the local authorities should take measures to deal with them."

However, he did not explain that, under Chinese law, no interview of any Chinese citizen can take place without permission from the authorities.

The Foreign Ministry at the weekend simply denied that anyone had been detained in the first place.

Leading article
Review, page 3

Jasper turns its back on soulless Klan rally

BY ANDREW MARSHALL
in Jasper

THEY PRAYED for rain in Jasper, but it did not come. The day was scorching hot, and the streets of the little East Texas town were eerily quiet but for the intermittent noise of the police helicopter and the chatter of television cameramen swapping stories of past exploits.

The Ku Klux Klan chose Jasper for a rally on Saturday because it was here that James Byrd, a 49-year-old black man, was dragged to his death behind a pickup truck. The three white men arrested for his murder, it was claimed, had links to white racist groups. The Klan disavowed his killing, and said they just wanted a chance to put their case in public. Rain might have saved the people of Jasper from an ugly day.

Just after midday the doors of the courthouse opened, disgorging 40 members of the Texas Department of Safety police in riot helmets. Only then did they came out: about 20 members of the Ku Klux Klan, most in white, black or blue robes and hoods. The synchs on the flags they brought with them were testimony to their strange mixture of beliefs: the confederacy, the United States, Texas, a drop of blood and, most sinister of all, the circle cross which mimics the swastika.

They made us listen to some of their music before they spoke. As if to prove that white folks have no soul, it blended banjos and bagpipes in dreadful harmony. The Klan shuffled around in their robes, which looked awfully hot.

Then they spoke, the Imperial Wizards and Grand Dragons from Texas, Louisiana, and elsewhere. "We're here to denounce the murder of James Byrd," said the first speaker. "The fellers that did that, they're definitely not a part of any Klan group," said another.



Texas Trooper Ethan Harris keeps an eye on the Ku Klux Klan gathering in Jasper Paul Buck/APF

And, of course, they wanted to assert their constitutional right to be here.

"Are you going to stand up for yourself ... and defend yourself?" asked the Klan. They gave a postal address for potential new members. "Make no mistake about it," they said, "Jasper is part of the Invisible Empire. This is Klan country."

There was no trouble, despite the presence of a few dozen black men from the New Black Panthers of Dallas. Jasper has no more of a history of black militancy than it does of white, but the Panthers saw the cameras as the Klan did.

Less than two hours after the Klan took the stage, they were ushered off again. The Texas Rangers held the crowds back and, with only one arrest, it was all over.

Of about 300 people who came to see this show, one-third were from the media. I counted 45 television cameras, about

two for every member of the Klan. Of the rest of the crowd, half were black and the rest were mainly passive observers or protesters who had driven in from outside. Only about forty were clearly there to support the Klan, raising Nazi salutes and screaming for White Power as the Klan were whisked off.

Robert had come 40 miles to see the Klan. "I support some of their beliefs, not all of them," he said cautiously as he lolled in the sun. As for the men who murdered James Byrd, well, "they just whupped a boy and they went too far."

The alleged killers will go on trial soon, with the authorities apparently set on charging them with capital murder charges that will allow the death penalty. Perhaps they will be executed, but the hate will continue.

The Klan is probably an unpleasant irrelevance. Everything about their performance

seems antique. The Invisible Empire is weaker than it has ever been, as legal cases and the rapidly declining membership take their toll.

But the new battalions of the right, the morass of groups that profess racism, separatism, and hatred of the state, are growing. This "leaderless resistance", as it calls itself, does not hold rallies dressed in white on hot Texas main streets. It feeds off the same hatreds and beliefs as the Klan, but it has its roots in white rejection of the integration of the 1960s, not the Reconstruction of the 1860s. If the killers of James Byrd had to learn their hatred, it was from these groups, not the Klan.

Jasper is trying to pick up the pieces, and restore some sanity where there is little left. The three weeks since James Byrd's death have brought everyone from basketball player Dennis Rodman of the Chicago Bulls to the Wizards and Dragons through town. Jasper is a small, poor town with ten per cent unemployment trying hard to keep itself afloat when it has little to offer beyond timber and a strip of junk food joints for travellers.

It has its racial conflicts, like anywhere else in America. The death of James Byrd has put these in the spotlight, and made them even harder to deal with. "I love Jasper, but there are some problems here," said Ray Lewis, a black pastor and owner of a timber business.

The young black men and women of Jasper will have drawn their own lessons from the Klan's appearance. They may well remember the words of the New Black Panthers, its leaders sweating in the hot sun, surrounded by cameramen: "We have been in this country for 400 years, and we will defend ourselves with any means necessary." That, for many people in Jasper, may have been the most lasting message of the day.

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France on mission to impress Africa

PRESIDENT JACQUES Chirac has launched his first tour of southern Africa, bringing to South Africa the most high-powered trade entourage to have visited the country since the end of apartheid.

The South African leg of the French President's tour, which includes Namibia, Mozambique and Angola, has been the longest part of the six-day trip. It ended yesterday with Mr Chirac pinning a decoration on Bishop Desmond Tutu, making him a grand officer of the Legion of Honour, France's highest award to non-heads of state. The bishop obligingly said that the anti-apartheid struggle had been based on the French Revolution.

The symbolism was clear. South Africa, the continent's economic giant, where the British and increasingly the United States dominate the scene, is where the French want to lavish their attention.

Among the 40-strong business delegation were a host of big hitters, including the head of Elf oil, Philippe Jaffre, and his counterpart at Total oil, Thierry Desmarest, along with heads of companies such as Alcatel, Bouygues and Cartier. The giants of the French arms industry, Dassault, Eurocopter and Thomson CSF, were also represented in anticipation of the announcement of the winner of a multi-billion-rand South African defence contract.

Christian Graeff, president of

BY MARY BRAID

the sub-Saharan business association Comité National du Patronat Français, insisted it was the prospect of new trade deals that had lured the delegation.

But if it was money that brought the businessmen, the French government's motives seem more complex. On the eve of the tour, the French Foreign minister Hubert Vedrine, one of three visiting ministers, insisted that France was not attempting to expand its influence in Africa in an attempt to counter increased US interest.

Nor, he insisted, did France detect a US "conspiracy", despite persistent reports that France suspects Washington is trying to usurp Paris in its traditional sphere of influence. All major trading states, Mr Vedrine said, were interested in Africa's emerging markets.

France insists that it has switched from paternalism to fraternism in Africa. But it has much to live down on a continent where, for decades it regularly sent in the troops to prop up dictators in return for oil and mineral concessions and government contracts.

The worst blot on the record was France's support for Hutu extremists before and after the 1994 genocide in Rwanda, in which 800,000 Tutsis and moderate Hutus were massacred. The then French president, François Mitterrand, was reported to have said: "In some

countries genocide is not really important."

During President Chirac's visit then, it is not surprising that some host countries are cynical about France's new-found interest in southern Africa.

Mr Chirac, while dismissing claims of US-French friction, went on to score points against the Americans when he said France still believed that aid, as well as trade, was essential to Africa's development.

President Bill Clinton's "trade not aid" slogan struck an ugly chord in South Africa during his own tour of the continent earlier this year. The American emphasis irked President Nelson Mandela and his successor Thabo Mbeki, who complained that African countries were sinking under the burden of international debt.

For all that, Mr Chirac has received less of President Mandela's time than did Mr Clinton.

French officials deny this, but it is reported that Mr Mandela turned down some of Mr Chirac's proposals to accompany him on events. South Africa, it is claimed, was frightened that other African states might see it as being too friendly with France. Peddling its own theory of an African renaissance - based on "African solutions for African problems" - South Africa, behind welcoming smiles, demonstrated caution.

Some diplomats and observers in South Africa warn that old habits die hard. The French may have given up their taste for military intervention in Africa, but their methods have become more subtle. Sceptics point to claims that only last year France helped to overthrow the elected government of Pascal Lissouba in Congo after he began to award oil concessions to American, rather than French, companies.



Bishop Desmond Tutu, left, being awarded for his anti-apartheid activities with a medal that made him a grand officer of the Legion of Honour by President Jacques Chirac
Gerard Fouet/AP

UN envoys' death propels Angola back to civil war

THE ANGOLAN government is preparing for a new outbreak of its long-running civil war, following the death of Alioune Blondin Beye, the United Nations special envoy to the country in a plane crash on Friday.

Beye's death was particularly untimely. The day before his plane crashed, the peace envoy from Mali, who had spent five years trying to negotiate peace between the government and Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels, was told peace talks had collapsed.

Summoned to a private meeting with Dr Savimbi at his headquarters in Andulo, in central Angola, Beye was told Unita had no intention of meeting a UN deadline to hand over control of its territory to the government by tomorrow, in spite of a threat of UN sanctions. Unita also told the envoy that the peace process was "unfair".

Unita, the national Union for the Total Independence of Angola, accuses the government of murdering and tortur-

BY CAROLINE LEES
in Luanda

Last week the government army began registering men aged 15 to 34 for the combat. Extra soldiers have been sent to remote areas and unemployed teenagers rounded up and sent for military training.

Unita sympathisers have been targeted. The UN has confirmed that suspected members of Unita have been harassed, and even raped and killed, by government police.

Unita is ready to fight back. Since the beginning of this year the organisation has reportedly been offering former soldiers from the South African army \$10,000 a month to train its soldiers at bases in the south of Angola.

Recently Unita has taken control of villages and towns in the north and east, and has laid mines along access roads. Foreign engineers have been warned that if they try to build roads in Unita-held areas they will be killed. Last week Unita took over the town of Luaua, on Angola's border with the Democratic Republic of Congo. Although police and foreign aid workers fled the town before the rebels arrived, Unita captured three UN police observers. They were released after Beye appealed to Savimbi.

As a result of the increased tension, many foreign aid projects in country areas are shutting down and expatriate workers are moving to the capital, Luanda.

Unita blames the renewed hostilities on the government, saying it will not hand over more territory until the safety of its supporters can be guaranteed. Horacio Junjivili, a Unita spokesman, said 263 Unita leaders had been killed and 633 sympathisers jailed or "disappeared" in areas handed over to the government under the peace deal. He denied they were planning a full-scale war but said Unita was "frustrated" by police violence directed against its supporters.

"In a country like Angola, which has been fighting for nearly 30 years, one million men know how to fight well," he warned.

Beye was one of the few men who might have persuaded Dr Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to restart the peace talks. After five years in Angola he knew them both well. One observer said: "There's going to be chaos without him".



UN envoy Alioune Blondin Beye

ing its supporters in those parts of the country it has already returned to government control as part of the peace process.

Beye's staff said the UN envoy, already exhausted and ill with heart problems, was visibly upset after the meeting with Unita, which spelled the collapse of his efforts to end Angola's 20-year civil war.

The Lusaka Protocol of 1994 marked the end of the two years of fighting that broke out after Dr Savimbi refused to accept the results of the 1992 elections, which Unita expected to win, but lost to the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

Under the agreement, Unita was to have accepted the election result, handed over control of its territory to the government and disbanded its army.

"Make sure
everyone
knows
I'm still in
Bed."

Just a face in the crowd...but not for long

CITY LIFE DELHI

DREAMS OF being unexpectedly showered with wealth, perhaps even achieving fame, are not peculiar to Indians. But in a land where the population is within a whisker of a billion people, a sizeable minority of them toiling anonymously way below the poverty line, the desire for both is particularly intense.

The tale of how Sham Lal attained both has resonance for India's army of poor far beyond his neighbours in the tangle of teeming lanes of Delhi's old city.

Sham Lal is as far as you could imagine from the younger, brasher breed of get-rich-quick Indians. The nouveau rich, though, who manifest themselves at their least appealing as fat yuppie Punjabi businessmen ("rupies" as they're called, merely heighten the appetite for wealth.

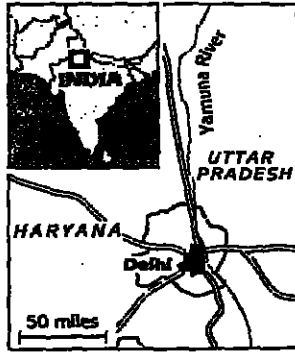
In contrast, the octogenarian dhobi-wallah of this story is a model from an earlier, simpler era. In the traditional Hindu way he had accepted the hand that fate had dealt him,

while perhaps secretly hoping that the virtues of hard work and prayer would pay off in the next life. His reward came sooner than expected.

For Sham Lal, about 80 (though no one, least of all himself, knows his exact age) his craggy old face proved to be his fortune. Several years ago, as he stood outside his makeshift shop in the narrow lanes of Delhi's Spice Market, where he spreads clothes on the ground for ironing, he was photographed sipping a chai (sweet, milky tea) by an American tourist.

Topless in the stifling heat, with only a traditional dhoti loin-cloth to preserve his modesty, old Lal made quite a startling impression. He never gave it another thought. But the tourist had in fact been the president of an American-based tea company on his honey moon in India.

Long after his return to the US, the Tazo Tea executive was



scratching around for an image to front an advertising campaign. He hit on the idea that Lal's holiday snap portrait fitted the bill. Unknown to the dhobi, he found himself spearheading an American ad campaign. He had become famous.

The difficult part was handing over the cheque. Finding Lal among the warren of the old city would have been difficult at the best of times, but with no name and no address to go on, it was a daunting task.

Yet Tazo Tea's agent in Delhi went about it with admirable gusto. Every day for more than two weeks they scoured the crumbling slums. Finally, after getting nowhere, they plastered the whole area with blown-up versions of the original picture and copies of the advertising poster, together with appeals to contact the agents if anyone knew of his whereabouts.

It paid off. One of Lal's two sons spotted his father's face smiling down at him from a poster. The agents handed over a cheque for 20,000 rupees (\$350). The next problem, of course, was that the old man did not even have a bank account where he could cash his newly-acquired small fortune, though this was quickly resolved by his son.

Like many who have come by windfalls, Sham Lal has

not allowed it to change his life much. He still collects his customers' laundry and takes it to the banks of the city's filthy Yamuna River. Just as he has done for decades, the clothes are washed overnight in a huge boiler, before being laid out to dry ready for ironing. Only now he has lessened his work-load a little.

The modelling fee enabled him to pay off a sizeable slice of his debts which he had run up marrying off each of his six daughters, perhaps a burden anywhere, but a particular financial liability in India. As is the custom he had paid for an elaborate wedding for each, and also had to stump up a dowry for the grooms and their families.

He had raised the money by borrowing from his customers, and repaying the loans in kind, or from the meagre earnings of his dhobi business. It was an mill-stone that would have ensured he worked till he dropped. Literally. Until he smiled. And fortune smiled back.

IAN MCKINNON



The old market in Delhi - not a place to look for the proverbial needle

Hanson vows to beat three ministers

BY JOHN MAIR

AUSTRALIA'S CONTROVERSIAL right-wing politician Pauline Hanson said yesterday that her increasingly popular One Nation party will try to unseat at least three senior government ministers in the coming Australian election.

The anti-immigration and protectionist One Nation, which has emerged as a third force in Australian politics, also wants the repeal of anti-discrimination and Aboriginal land rights legislation, she said.

Mrs Hanson targeted the Deputy Prime Minister Tim Fischer, the Foreign Affairs Minister Alexander Downer and the Primary Industries Minister John Anderson as among the worst performers in Prime Minister John Howard's conservative Liberal-National coalition.

"Tim Fischer has failed the rural sector of Australia," Mrs Hanson said of Mr Fischer, whose rural-based National Party has seen many disaffected voters wooed by One Nation.

Mrs Hanson told Australia's Channel Ten television that she would encourage One Nation voters to direct their preference votes away from the three ministers in the next election, which though not due until mid-1999 is expected to take place within the next two months.

Under Australia's complicated electoral system, voters

select candidates in order of preference. Many candidates, in order to gain a seat in Parliament, rely on these second-choice votes as well as the primary vote.

A poll by a newspaper in Mr Fischer's rural New South Wales state electorate has shown that his primary vote has been cut in half and he would only retain power with the help of One Nation preferences.

The new One Nation party's populist mix of policies, which also include trade protection and looser gun laws, saw it win 11 of 89 seats in the Queensland state poll on 13 June. National opinion polls put its support at about 12 per cent.

Mrs Hanson earlier reiterated her calls for the repeal of Australia's anti-discrimination laws and the Native Title Act, which recognises Aboriginal occupation of Australia before white settlement began in 1788. "Native title is destroying us and splitting us as a people," she said, adding that she wanted a referendum on the issue.

She also called for an English language test for prospective immigrants. "Here in Australia, we speak English. Everyone should speak English," Mrs Hanson said. "I don't want to go to any parts of Australia and don't know whether I am walking into a butcher shop or a hairdresser."

IN BRIEF

FDP stays loyal to Kohl

GERMANY'S LIBERAL Free Democrats (FDP) wrapped up a party congress in Leipzig pledging loyalty to the troubled ruling coalition while distancing themselves from unpopular Chancellor Helmut Kohl. In opinion polls, the FDP is teetering on the edge of the five per cent required to win seats in Parliament. Germany goes to the polls on 27 September.

Envoys mobbed in East Timor

THOUSANDS OF anti-Indonesian protesters yesterday escorted three European ambassadors through the streets of the East Timor capital Dili as they surveyed political conditions in the troubled territory. The protesters shouted "Dead or alive, we prefer to be independent". The ambassadors also met students who called for the withdrawal of Indonesian troops and access by international human rights groups.

Netanyahu pledges July deal

ISRAELI PRIME Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he expected an agreement with the Palestinians on an Israeli troop withdrawal from the West Bank by the end of July. Critics, however, accused Netanyahu of devising new gimmicks to stall the peace process, and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said the Israeli prime minister's objective was "to torpedo the peace process."

Berber singer is mourned

TENS OF thousands of mourners in Algeria's eastern Berber region filled a mountain village yesterday for the funeral of the Berber singer Lounes Matoub, whose assassination sparked rioting. He was killed last week by Muslim militants.

DAVID MCKITTRICK

'Northern Ireland has very little culture of celebration, superstitiously believing any unseemly behaviour to be tempting fate'

THE MONDAY REVIEW, PAGE 3

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BUSINESS

Bankruptcies are up, job prospects worsen and manufacturing heads for recession

Triple whammy points to economic slowdown

BRIEFING

Straight talker takes on airlines

NEXT WEEK Karel Van Miert, the European Competition Commissioner will finally rule on BA's long-delayed alliance with American Airlines and the betting is that Mr Van Miert will be as steely and unyielding as he has been in past encounters with the big battalions of the aviation industry.

Interview, page 21

PPL ties up gene technology



PPL Therapeutics, the biotechnology company behind Dolly the sheep (pictured left), has signed a deal giving it exclusive world-wide rights to the technology used in its gene implanting technology. The agreement with the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh should enable PPL to produce a wider range of therapeutic

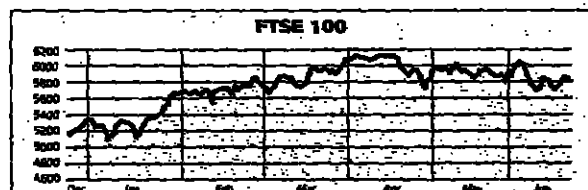
products using its nuclear transfer technology. The technique involves introducing copies of human genes into animals to produce proteins in their milk. One of the big potential markets is the transgenic production of human serum albumin, a protein used to aid blood transfusions, said to be worth several billion dollars a year.

Chambers briefing

Business leaders have called on Tony Blair to press ahead with congestion charges on car drivers to help reduce traffic jams. In a letter to the Prime Minister, the British Chambers of Commerce, warned that traffic congestion was costing business between £15bn and £20bn a year. "It acts as a major brake on business competitiveness and an unnecessary drag on the economy," said the BCC's deputy director general Dr Ian Peters. "The UK cannot afford not to tackle this problem."

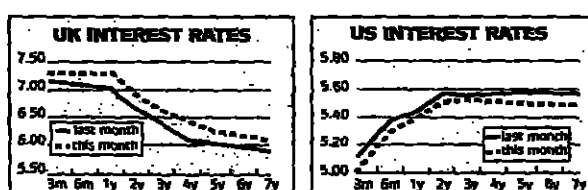
The letter follows reports that the Government's transport White Paper may backtrack on measures to penalise drivers before the election. A spokesman for the Prime Minister said it would be inappropriate to comment on any plans before the White Paper was published.

STOCK MARKETS



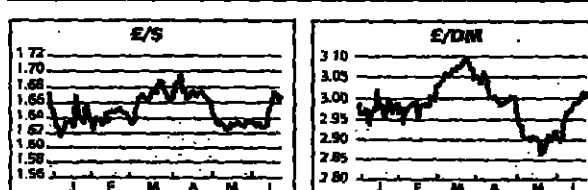
Index	Close	Wk's ch	Wk's ch (%)	52 wk high	52 wk low	Yr. high (%)
FTSE 100	5877.40	129.30	2.25	6150.5	4382.8	3.901
FTSE 250	5522.30	-76.20	-1.36	5970.9	4384.2	3.485
FTSE 350	2831.40	43.60	1.56	2940.1	2141.8	3.826
FTSE All Share	2762.00	35.13	1.29	2872.04	2106.59	3.786
FTSE SmallCap	2618.80	-76.00	-2.82	2793.8	2182.1	3.162
FTSE 100/FTSE 250	1433.60	-37.20	-2.59	1517.1	1225.2	3.243
FTSE AIM	1100.70	-18.90	-1.69	1146.9	865.9	1.179
FTSE EBITD 100	1045.08					
Dow Jones	8943.80	242.64	2.79	9261.91	6971.32	1.594
Nikkei	15210.04	-57.94	-0.38	20910.79	14488.21	1.004
Hang Seng	8607.86	15.95	0.19	16820.31	7351.68	4.738
Dax	5870.42	167.81	2.94	5876.76	3487.24	2.758

INTEREST RATES



Index	3 months	6 months	9 months	12 months	10 year	30 year	Yr. high (%)
UK	7.87	0.94	0.00	0.69	5.86	-1.22	5.45
US	5.69	-0.09	5.84	-0.25	5.45	-1.04	5.64
Japan	0.66	0.03	0.71	-0.18	1.54	-1.06	2.03
Germany	3.56	0.43	0.87	0.60	4.75	-0.91	5.34

CURRENCIES



Index	Wk's ch	Wk's ch (%)	Yr. high	Yr. low	Yr. high (%)
Dollar	1.5615	-1.27	1.6653		
Mark	3.0100	+1.77	2.8886		
Yen	236.44	+9.89	188.63		
£ Index	107.20	+0.90	101.80		

OTHER INDICATORS

Index	Wk's ch	Wk's ch (%)	Yr. high	Yr. low	Yr. high (%)
Brent Oil (\$)	12.03	1.38	17.65		
Gold (\$)	293.85	-4.90	338.25		
Silver (\$)	5.39	0.09	4.78		

TOURIST RATES

Country	Rate	Country	Rate
Australia (\$)	2.6705	Mexican (nuevo peso)	13.47
Austria (schilling)	20.44	Netherlands (guilder)	3.2793
Belgium (franc)	60.13	New Zealand (\$)	3.1111
Canada (\$)	2.3878	Norway (krone)	12.58
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8497	Portugal (escudo)	204.83
Denmark (krone)	11.16	Saudi Arabia (riyal)	6.0806
Finland (markka)	8.9002	Singapore (\$)	2.6370
France (franc)	9.7592	Spain (peseta)	246.48
Germany (mark)	2.9217	South Africa (rand)	8.7581
Greece (drachma)	490.84	Sweden (krone)	12.85
Hong Kong (\$)	12.53	Switzerland (franc)	2.4497
Ireland (pound)	1.1525	Thailand (baht)	61.79
India (rupee)	65.30	Turkey (lira)	425120
Israel (shekel)	5.6458	USA (\$)	1.6302
Italy (lira)	2882		
Japan (yen)	230.73		
Malaysia (ringgit)	6.2621		
Malta (lira)	0.6306		

Rates for Indonesian purposes only

Source: Thomas Cook

FRESH SIGNS that the British economy's slowdown is well under way emerged today from three separate reports showing bankruptcies on the rise, job prospects on the wane and manufacturing heading for recession.

The further evidence of economic slowdown is unlikely to be enough to rule out the threat of a further rise in interest rates, however, when the Monetary Policy Committee meets next week.

The latest quarterly survey of employment prospects from Manpower, the UK's biggest employment agency, suggests that jobs growth is stabilising. The survey of more than 2,000 employers reveals that jobs prospects are very mixed across a range of industries,

BY DIANE COYLE
Economics Editor

and the overall balance of 20 per cent planning to take on more staff in the next three months is unchanged on a year earlier for the first time in two years.

Dun & Bradstreet reports that more than 10,000 businesses failed in April-June, a 9.4-per-cent increase on the first quarter and 4 per cent higher than a year earlier.

The tightness of the jobs market, which is translating into higher earnings growth, has been one of the main concerns of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee. Official figures since the shock interest rate rise earlier this month showed a further acceleration in pay, but these only run up to April.

Survey evidence suggesting that the jobs market is coming off the boil will therefore be welcome, as it points to some easing of the Bank's dilemma.

The MPC holds its July meeting next week, and - after being caught on the hop in June - analysts are braced for the worst. The vote for June's quarter-point rise to 7.5 per cent is thought to have been overwhelming, and most of the

evidence since then has pointed to continuing inflationary pressures alongside signs of slowing growth.

The Manpower survey indicates that employment in manufacturing will fall slightly, with buoyant sectors such as electronics, the car industry and food and drink not hiring enough to offset declines elsewhere. In services, employment prospects appear static with some losers such as retailing balancing gains like telecommunications.

Lilian Bennett of Manpower said: "The first signs of a downturn in job prospects are becoming evident from these figures."

The Dun & Bradstreet report notes that the number of failures during the first half of

1998 was lower than the first half of 1997, but adds: "The latest figures since April suggest that the tide of business casualties may be beginning to turn."

Analyst Philip Mellor said a rapid rise in the number of bankruptcies, among smaller businesses, was particularly worrying. They were up from 4,670 in the first quarter to 5,860 in the second.

Cambridge Econometrics holds back from forecasting a full-blown recession for the economy, putting GDP growth this year at 2 per cent and next year at 1.5 per cent. Even so these figures, similar to the predictions last week from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, mark a sharp slowdown from

growth of 3.3 per cent in 1997. The predictions foresee expansion in industries such as telecommunications and computing, and also construction, riding to the rescue of the rest of the economy. Businesses in retailing and the leisure industries are likely to be affected by a slowdown in computer spending.

However, the forecast that the economy as a whole will enjoy a relatively soft landing depends on the assumption that the pound weakens gradually from its present rate, of just over DM3. If it does not, the impact on exports and manufacturing could spell recession for the whole economy. If it falls faster, inflation would climb above its target without further interest rate increases.



The sale of Ferrybridge power station in Yorkshire could help raise £1.5bn towards PowerGen's bid for East Midlands Electricity

Powergen to bid for East Midlands

POWERGEN will today unveil an agreed £1.5bn bid for the regional supply company East Midlands Electricity along with plans to sell off a fifth of its generating capacity.

But the generator will also warn that if the takeover of East Midlands is blocked by a referral to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, it will refuse to buy any more British coal, putting miners' jobs in jeopardy.

PowerGen's previous attempt to buy a regional electricity company, Midlands Electricity, was thwarted by the last government. But it is optimistic that the purchase of East Midlands from the US

utility Dominion Resources will escape an MMC referral if PowerGen reduces its generating operations.

The sale of one of PowerGen's five coal stations - probably the 2,000-megawatt Ferrybridge plant in Yorkshire - and the disposal of its upstream gas interests could raise about £1.5bn towards the cost of buying East Midlands.

PowerGen will argue that the deal should not face regulatory obstacles because the generating market has become more competitive since its failed Midlands Electricity bid, while the offer to dispose of

more coal-fired capacity will open it up still further.

If the deal is referred, PowerGen will hold back from signing any new contracts with RJB Mining. "If you don't know what the shape of the business is going to be, then the last thing you would do is go out and buy a lot more coal," said one source.

The indications from the electricity regulator, Professor Stephen Littlechild, are that he wants PowerGen and National Power to dispose of substantially more than 20 per cent of their capacity in order to create a truly competitive generating market. He wants to see three or four new coal-fired op-

erators given the opportunity to enter the market.

The two generators account for just under half Britain's power station capacity and set prices in the electricity pool 70 per cent of the time.

Selling off Ferrybridge would reduce PowerGen's generating portfolio to 12,000 megawatts of which about 8,000 would be coal-fired. National Power, which is opposing government attempts to make it sell off any stations, has about 16,000 megawatts of capacity.

The next biggest operator of coal-fired stations is Eastern, which bought 6,000 megawatts of capacity from National Power and PowerGen three years ago.

Eastern is not likely to be asked to dispose of any stations.

East Midlands, which Dominion acquired for £1.7bn in 1996, is the country's third largest supply company with 2.3 million customers.

PowerGen will argue that the acquisition will allow it to hedge its generating output, provide a platform to attack the domestic market and give it the expertise in distribution necessary for its strategy of overseas expansion.

The group is separately negotiating a £10bn merger with the Texas-based utility, Houston Industries, although this deal is still thought to be several weeks away from completion.

Airbus closes on £2.5bn BA deal

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

THE European aircraft manufacturer Airbus Industrie yesterday looked close to beating Boeing of the US to a £2.5bn jet order from British Airways, although senior executives at the airline insisted the competition was still open.

The BA board may decide between the two manufacturers at its monthly meeting a week today. However, it was stressed that a decision would easily be deferred until August. "The position at the moment is that we are still taking to both companies and have not yet taken a final decision," said one BA executive.

The order is for up to 100 jets to operate BA's short-haul European routes from Manchester and Birmingham. If Airbus is selected it would be a huge coup for the consortium, making the first time it has won an order from BA.

The choice is between the Airbus A320 family and the latest version of the Boeing 737. BA is likely to place an initial firm order for 30 jets with options to buy a further 70. Engines could either come from the International Aero Engines consortium, which includes Rolls-Royce, and is offering the V2500 or a partnership of General Electric of the US and Snecma of France, which makes the CFM56.

When it announced the competition, BA said it expected the two aircraft manufacturers to make imaginative proposals to lessen costs for the airline. One solution could be for BA to lease planes by the hour, leaving everything from maintenance to residual values in the hands of the manufacturer.

Nomura splits pub chain in two

NOMURA is splitting its Intreprenor pub group in two and creating Britain's biggest tenanted pub estate in the process. The Japanese investment bank is putting 2,600 pubs into a new company, as yet unnamed, which will be headed by Giles Thorley and will be worth up to £900 million.

Intreprenor will retain 1,400 pubs, including 300 where the tenants are in litigation with the company over alleged restrictive supply agreements inherited from the chain's previous owners.

Mr Thorley, 31, helped negotiate Nomura's original acquisition of Intreprenor from Grand Metropolitan and Fosters Brewing last year for £1.2 billion. The former barrister will join the fledgling company today and it will be officially launched in September. Mr Thorley says he is look-

BY JOHN WILLCOCK

ing for novel ways of financing the new chain, including securitisation, and that Nomura is likely to reduce its stake in the new company.

All the pubs in the new company will benefit from Nomura's SupplyLine formula which allows access to 21 beer suppliers and 140 other products at discount prices through a "one-stop shop".

Mr Thorley will take with him a group of directors from Intreprenor including those responsible for operations, commercial, SupplyLine, property, human resources and finance.

Of the remaining 1,400 outlets, those in litigation are awaiting the outcome of several test cases which should establish the basis for a wider settlement with Nomura.

Call for John Redwood to resign

A BUILDING SOCIETY pressure group last night called on John Redwood, the Conservative trade and industry spokesman, to resign from Murray Financial, whose shares start trading on AIM this morning.

Kerry Pollard MP, spokesman for the "Save Our Building Societies" campaign, is to propose an Early Day Motion today condemning Mr Redwood for becoming a director of Murray Financial, which has

been set up to cash in on the demutualisation boom.

Mr Pollard is calling on Mr Redwood to resign his directorship of Murray Financial, or failing that, to resign his position immediately as shadow trade and industry secretary.

Murray Financial was launched by Ken Murray in Edinburgh earlier this year and has just raised £10million through an oversubscribed

placing and offer. The company aims to persuade building societies, friendly societies and mutual life assurance companies to demutualise in exchange for shares in Murray Financial, a specially created investment vehicle.

Mr Pollard, Labour MP for St Albans, said yesterday: "How can the spokesperson for Trade & Industry responsible for competition law, regulation within the economy and consumer choice join an organisation that

seeks to limit choice within the financial services market by removing building societies? He has placed himself in an impossible position. Mr Redwood must resign immediately from Murray Financial."

Mr Redwood has declared his interest in the company on the register of Members' interests, and maintains that there is no clash between his role as trade spokesman and that of non-executive director of the company.

Buyout for Hambros venture capital

THE MANAGERS of a £261m private equity fund previously managed by Hambros and sold on to Investec, the South African financial group, have transferred the fund to a new company, Duke Street Capital, writes John Willcock.

The fund, called HEV III, recently completed the £46m buyout of Vardon Bingo (renamed Ritz Clubs) from Vardon. The fund also recently bought the Blue Green golf club and hotel operator from the French government for £13m, as well as financing the £100m management buy-in of County Hotels from Queens Moat Houses.

The 20-strong team of professional private equity investors who used to work for Hambros have performed what they call a "do-it-yourself buyout" on the HEV III fund. They claim it is the first UK buyout of a private equity business to be backed entirely by existing investors.

The specially created new company, based in St James's in the West End of London, will

be headed by Edmund Truell as chief executive and Graham Lee, who will be managing director. A non-executive chairman will be appointed shortly, a spokesman for the company said yesterday.

No money changed hands in the deal, which consisted merely of transferring the management of HEV III to Duke Street.

هذا من الاموال

Can we survive another Asian shock?

WITH THE JAPANESE economy teetering on the brink of a serious recession, and China missing about the possibility of devaluation, the financial markets are beginning to fear that a further slump in Asian growth will finally overpower the strength of final demand in the US and the EU.

GDP growth is now slowing in the OECD area, and corporate earnings are decelerating sharply. There are concerns that the strength of fixed investment spending in the US and the EU may be punctured, triggering a more serious downturn in world activity. If investment is dragged down in the West, the "Goldilocks economic cycle" could come to a grinding halt amid a serious shortage in global aggregate demand.

At this stage, such an outcome still seems on the pessimistic end of the possible range of end-turns. Domestic final demand is - if anything - accelerating rather than decelerating in both the US and the EU. Furthermore, several mitigating factors should be borne in mind when considering the likely impact of a further Asian downturn on GDP in the rest of the world.

First, a large part of the initial Asian shock ("Asia I") has



GAVYN DAVIES

If Western investment is dragged down, the 'Goldilocks cycle' could grind to a halt

now been absorbed by the OECD economies. When the shock first developed last year, Goldman Sachs estimated that the likely impact on OECD GDP growth, working primarily through trade, would be of the order of 0.5-0.75 per cent of GDP.

Looking at the recent behaviour of trade data in the US and the EU, it seems that most of this shock will already have been seen in the output figures by the middle of this year. (Of course, other associated developments such as the strengthening in the dollar,

the weakness in commodity prices and the change in monetary policy triggered by the Asian crisis, have diluted these direct trade effects.)

The accompanying table gives the latest Goldman estimates of the impact of changes in trade balances on OECD GDP in the last 12 months, including the impact of Asia I. The estimated effect of Asia I on OECD GDP has been around -0.5 per cent, but the statistical information on which this is based is not ideal. The trade data relate to goods only, and consequently ignore the (probably sizeable) impact of the Asian shock on trade in services.

In addition, they are derived from the visible trade statistics of the OECD countries, which are measured in nominal terms, and which therefore fail to differentiate between price and volume effects. This tends to lead to a downward bias to the estimated impact of Asia I. If statistics were available in volume terms, and if they included services, it seems probable that the impact would be significantly larger.

Nevertheless, the impact of Asia I has certainly not been the dominant force determining the pattern of GDP growth

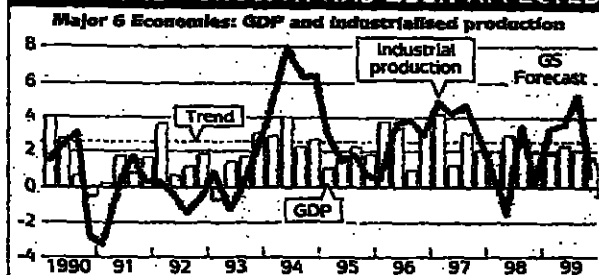
in the major economies in the past 12 months. Variations in domestic demand, and changes in exchange rates within the OECD itself, have been much more significant. Furthermore, it is important to realise that, if Asia I now stabilises - ie if GDP growth in the crisis economies stays extremely low, and if the trade surpluses for these countries remain at present very high levels - then there will be no additional drag from a further deterioration in the net trade path for the OECD countries.

With the drag from net trade stabilising, the negative trade numbers in the table would disappear, and real GDP growth would rebound in line with the higher growth rates in OECD domestic demand. In other words, the Asian crisis needs to continue worsening at a rapid pace in order to prevent a rebound in GDP in the West.

Of course, the Asian crisis is in fact worsening again - as evidenced by the further downgrades to GDP growth in Japan and the crisis economies which have been made recently by most forecasters. Maybe a further significant Asian shock - "Asia II" - is now developing.

But would Asia II in fact be sufficient to drag the OECD

HOW WORLD GROWTH HAS BEEN AFFECTED



How the Asian crisis has curtailed global growth rates				
Percent change from 1997Q1 - 1998Q1				
Impact of trade changes				
	Domestic Demand	Total	of which Asian effect	GDP
US	4.9	-1.2	-0.6	3.7
Japan	-4.6	1.1	-0.4	-3.5
EMU-11	2.8	0.4	-0.4	3.2
UK	4.4	-1.5	-0.6	2.9
Major Six Economies	2.7	0.2	-0.5	2.3

Notes: Percent of GDP. Total effect of changes in interest rates and trade balances. Total effect of real stress may be larger.

economies into recession? Probably not. Apart from the fact that - as we have just seen - Asia II would need to be just as large as Asia I simply to prevent OECD growth rates from rebounding, it is important here to differentiate between the impact of downgrades in Asian GDP, as contrasted with further improvements in the Asian current account bal-

ances. In terms of the impact on GDP growth in the US and the EU, changes in the growth rates of the Asian economies are much less significant than changes in net trade volumes. For illustration, bear in mind that exports to Asia (including Japan) account for only 4 per cent of US GDP, and for roughly 3 per cent of EU GDP. Given normal trade elas-

ticities, a downgrade of one percentage point in growth in the whole of Asia (including Japan) would probably lead to a drop of around 2 per cent in Asian demand for US and EU exports. But a decline of 2 per cent in exports to Asia would have only a negligible effect on GDP in the West - in fact, it would curtail GDP in the US by 0.08 per cent, and in the EU by 0.06 per cent.

By contrast, further improvements in Asian trade balances would have a much larger negative effect on Western economies, since every dollar of trade improvement in the East is equivalent to a dollar of GDP deterioration in the West. For example, if the trade surplus of the whole of Asia (including Japan) improves by 1 per cent of GDP, then the direct contractionary effect on GDP in the US and the EU is around 0.3 per cent in both cases.

rate adjustments that would further increase Asia's trade surplus with the West, but the scale of these changes may not be as large as in the case of Asia I.

In the first place, Asian inflation is rising sharply, eroding the huge gains in competitiveness which followed the devaluations of Asia I. And second, the trade balances in the crisis economies have now improved sufficiently to finance the balance of payments outflow which has been triggered by the reversal of capital flows. This means that there is no need for further improvements in trade balances - the foreign exchange earned from any increase in Asian exports is likely to be put to good use financing a much-needed recovery in imports.

For all these reasons, Asia II - even if it occurs - may not have as large an effect on GDP in the West as Asia I. Provided that domestic demand in the US and the EU is not dragged down by the confidence effects of the economic implosion in the East, then the developed economies should be able to survive the Asian onslaught without an outright recession, though a period of below-trend growth does seem likely, especially in the industrial sector.

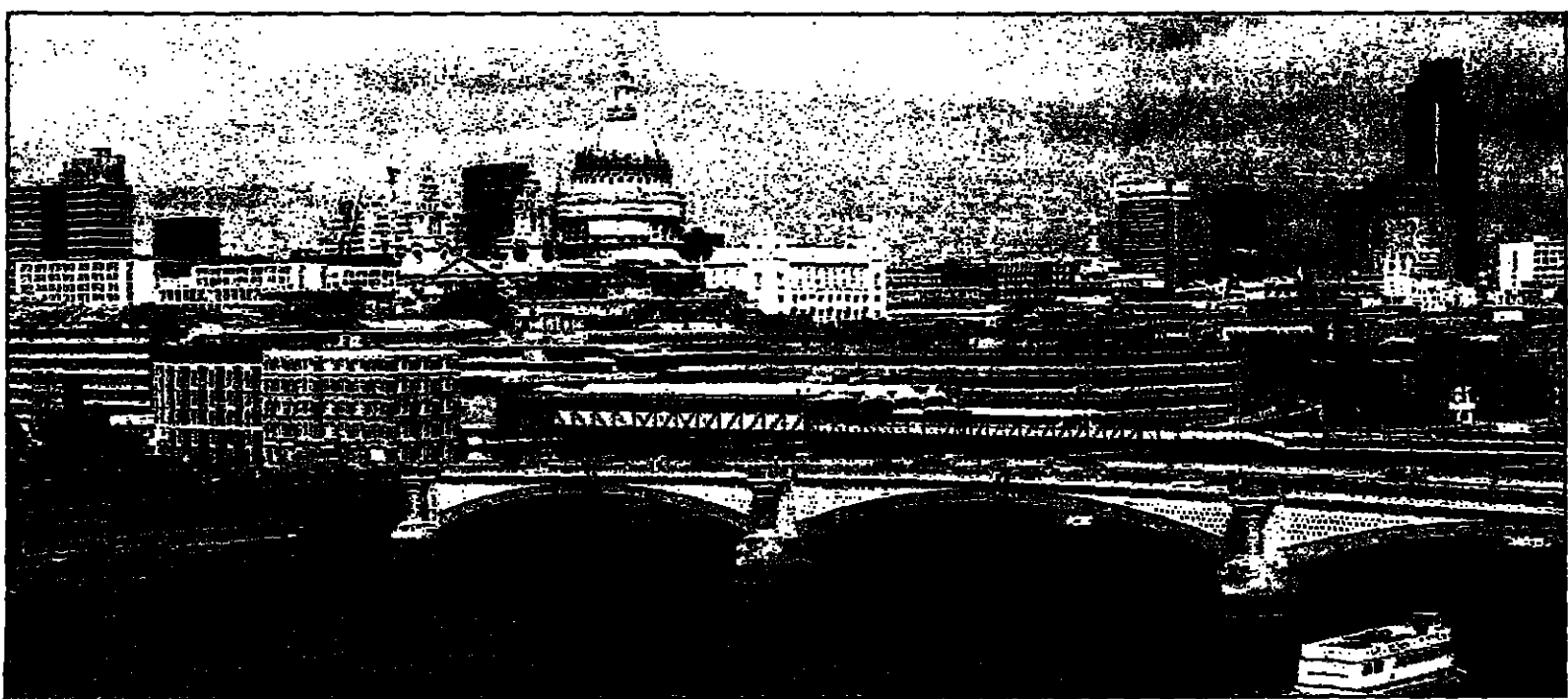
Foreign share of City property soars to 20%

BY JOHN WILLCOCK

FOREIGN companies now own 20 per cent of all property in the City and have nearly trebled their stake since 1983, with that trend set to accelerate, according to a survey published today.

The report from Development Securities, the property company chaired by Lord Gowrie, the former Minister, predicts that if current growth rates are maintained more than half of the City will be in foreign hands by 2025.

The report, titled *Who owns the City?*, claims: "In terms of overseas ownership, London is the only truly world city in Europe. Neither Frankfurt nor Paris come close, where over-



More than half of the City could be in foreign hands by 2025, Development Securities estimates

seas ownership of offices is estimated at under 5 per cent."

German companies, which bought heavily into London towards the end of the last recession, are currently the largest foreign owners of office space, followed by Japanese and US companies.

Occupation by foreign firms now stands at 35 per cent, with the US having the largest presence, says Development Securities.

The American companies often opt for London as their chosen base from which to respond to the development of the European single market, it says.

The report claims that international companies are attracted to London only partly by the City's "critical mass" of financial services expertise. Equally important in terms of pulling power is London's attraction as a city to live in, with its language and cultural assets.

The survey warns, however, that concentration on companies in the financial, insurance and real estate (FIRE) sector increases the City's exposure to risk in a recession.

More than half of all the City's offices are now both owned and occupied by companies in the FIRE sector. FIRE firms own 80 per cent of the City.

Lord Gowrie, chairman of Development Securities, commented: "Over the last fifteen years, the City has had a phenomenal success in attracting overseas firms to locate here."

The vibrancy of London as a place to live in has played a large part in this process, thereby giving it a massive advantage in world financial business." The report adds that owners and occupiers will increasingly seek to establish or expand their London presence beyond the boundaries of the Square Mile.

The report itself covers "City fringe" areas as far west as Holborn, as north as The Angel, Islington, and as far east as Aldgate, with London Bridge making an appearance in the south.

Great hopes for smaller IT

BY PETER THAL LARSEN

LARGE information technology companies have dramatically outperformed their smaller peers on the stock market in the past few years, a report out today shows. However, this means small IT stocks now offer better value for investors.

The research, prepared by the investment bank Granville Davies, shows that since the beginning of 1996 the largest IT companies have produced the best returns. During that period, the IT stocks which are among the 350 largest companies increased their value more than fivefold.

Smaller IT companies, while also producing strong returns compared to the rest of the market, have lagged behind the large groups. IT stocks ranked in the Small Cap index have quadrupled in value while companies in the Fiedling index and firms listed on the Alternative Investment Market have trebled.

Granville says investors are willing to attach higher valuations to large stocks because they are seen as less risky. Large IT companies, especially software manufacturers such

as Sage and Misys, are usually less dependent on large one-off contracts than smaller ones.

As a result, IT stocks in the FTSE 350 index now trade on a prospective earnings multiple of more than 50 while the smaller stocks change hands on multiples of less than 35.

Large stocks have also performed better because fund managers, who have been trying to build up their exposure to the sector since the Stock Exchange announced plans to create a separate IT index at the end of last year, have preferred to buy the larger stocks which are more easy to trade.

But this does not mean that larger stocks will always produce better performances. Ian Spence, IT analyst at Granville, recommends spotting smaller growth companies which have the potential to become large.

"Investment in high-growth, high-quality smaller IT stocks will produce a better return, because the investor will enjoy above-average earnings growth combined with a significant upward re-rating," he says.

Companies 'not ready to deal with euro'

EIGHT OUT OF TEN multinational companies expect the single currency to lead to a more common approach to staff remuneration across Europe, and more than half believe it will result in pan-European pay agreements and levels, according to research

BY ROGER TRAFF

released today. However, only 40 per cent of companies have a strategy for dealing with the euro, even though it will be introduced in six months' time, and 78 per cent have no strategy for human resources, ac-

cording to the report by Deutsche Bank and the management consultancy Towers Perrin.

Don Cuthbert, head of EMU implementation strategy at Towers Perrin, said: "Companies have not thought through the people issues or the wider

strategic implications of EMU. Many companies that have begun to prepare have adopted a narrow interpretation of the impact EMU is likely to have and have focused on purely fiscal change in areas such as finance and information technology."

In fact, though, as he points out, at its simplest, the euro will affect payroll, pensions and benefit arrangements in member states that join, while it is possible to foresee a situation in which there will be harmonised pay rates and pan-European pay negotiations.

IN BRIEF

Thomas Cook to sell by phone

THOMAS COOK, the travel and financial services group, is launching a phone service selling travel insurance 24 hours a day. The policies will be underwritten by Home & Overseas Insurance Company, a part of Eagle Star, which in turn is a part of BAT Eagle Star, is in the process of being merged into a new financial services giant, Swiss insurer Zurich. Thomas Cook, which is owned by Westdeutsche Landesbank, is aiming for 10 per cent of the UK travel insurance market in its first year.

FSA takes lead in staff pensions

THE Financial Services Authority (FSA) is leading the way in introducing flexible pensions and other benefits for employees in a move that could set the standard for 21st Century pay schemes, according to the Employers' Forum on Age, which holds its second annual conference tomorrow. Under the approach, employees are given greater choice in relation to the three main components of their earnings - base pay, benefits allowance and pensions contribution. Howard Davies, chairman of the forum, and also head the FSA, said package "is exactly what employers need to encourage a mixed-age workforce."

OMG takes £2.5m antibiotics stake

OXFORD Molecular Group (OMG), the provider of IT and drug discovery research services to the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries, is investing £2.5m in MicroGenics, a new company aimed at speeding up the development of antibiotics. The company was formed by Professor Jeff Errington of the University of Oxford. The professor, the university and OMG will have stakes in the company.

31 backs sports wear start-up

TWO former executives of Umbro have left to found their own sports wear company, KooGa Sports, with equity backing of £200,000 from 31, the venture capital group. Shak Anwar, managing director, and Jim Bisset, chairman, are launching a new brand of rugby clothing from their Manchester base.

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Up to £2,000	1.00%	0.80%
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29 June 1998

Consumer caution weakens the furniture retailers

THE STOCK market is braced for a dismal week. It has already sent the group's shares tumbling to a new low, responding to an array of warning signals.

Almost every comparable retailer, such as DFS Furniture and Carpetright, has suffered as the windfall spending spree dried up and the chill winds of consumer caution whistled along the nation's high streets.

MFI's contribution to the tide of woe was unrelenting, prompting analysts to slash their profit forecasts. A particularly bleak trading update indicated that in the three weeks after Boxing Day sales went well, then fell away alarmingly.

The group's profits record since it floated six years ago is uninspiring. And its management is thought to have come under institutional pressure, with talk at the time of the trading statement that chairman Derek Hunt was summoned to explain the dismal display to major City shareholders.

Certainly they cannot be relaxed over MFI's performance and unless they are satisfied with the strategy outlined this week they are likely to press for management changes.

It is ironic that MFI's dismal figures will appear just a few days after its former parent, the Asda superstores chain, produced profits in excess of market hopes.

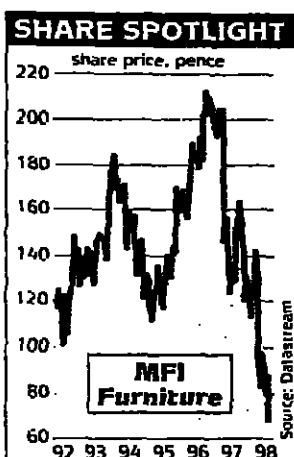
MFI, carved out of Asda in 1989, was floated at 115p a share. The price has touched 20p but closed at 65p on Friday.

John Richards at investment house BT Alex Brown was looking for profits of 280m, which would have represented a 29.7m advance, before the

STOCK MARKET WEEK



DEREK PAIN



trading update prompted a rethink. He is now shooting for 250m.

Naturally MFI's difficulties have prompted take-over rumours. There have been suggestions that predators will take advantage of the poor share price and mount a bid. But depressed shares often provide ammunition for a good old-fashioned ramp. Ikea, the Scandinavian retailer, has been mentioned as a possible bidder, so has Kingfisher.

Mr Hunt, a former policeman, has introduced a strategy which includes developing the Howden's joinery side and the French operations as well

as bringing in a national distribution network.

Says Mr Richards: "With confidence in management already badly shaken, the market will want reassurance that the new strategy can be implemented successfully."

MFI is a constituent of the mid cap index which has endured its worst run for four years. It fell for 11 consecutive sessions, slumping 460.2 points from its 5,966.6 peak. Lack of liquidity in second-line stocks was blamed. The suggestion was that some investors, satisfied with the heavy run the mid caps had enjoyed this year, decided to take some profits - and found it was much more difficult to sell than buy some stocks.

There was a snowball effect and the market's love affair with second- and, of course, third-liners could be over, at least for a time.

Although the mid cap decline has been severe, Footsie has not fared too well during the 11 days, going from 6,019.8 to 5,804.9. Strong sterling, which would have a particularly bruising impact on many mid cap companies, the Asian crisis and the threat of higher interest rates have tended to worry the market, pointing to an unsettled summer.

General Electric Co. is the heavyweight star of this week's reporting schedule. The electronic giant, going through a dramatic reshaping under new chairman Lord Simpson, should offer year's profits around £1.05bn, up some 4 per cent.

The Simpson strategy is to focus on fully owned operations rather than joint ventures. Last week GEC agreed to buy out the outstanding 40 per cent of telecoms maker GPT from the German group

Siemens for £700m. Other major deals have been the flotation of Alstom, the heavy engineer where it formerly shared ownership with Alcatel of France, and the £800m Tractor acquisition.

The rest of the foreshadowed results are on the market's under card. Greene King, one of the first regional brewers to acknowledge the pubs shake-up, should produce year's profits of £44m against £36.7m.

Many regionals, relying on traditional ales and stouts and their run-of-the-mill pub estates, have found the going tough as the big brewers and new-style pub companies have encroached on their territory. Greene King, famed for its Abbot hitler, bravely splashed out £197.5m on The Magic Pub Co, giving it a powerful presence in the branded pub market. It has also been quick to buy properties unloaded by the major brewers.

Marston Thompson & Evershed, the Pedigree bitter group, also went pub shopping, paying a fancy £20m for a little chain of trendy outlets called Pitcher & Piano.

It found the task of rolling out the P&P concept much more tortuous than expected but the chain should now be making more confident returns. New chief executive Nick Letcher (ex-Bass) has not yet had time to make his presence felt. Only a modest 3-per-cent profit advance is expected to £30.2m.

HP Bulmer, the cider maker, keeps up the drinks flow but with a sobering message. Profits are likely to have fallen from £29.5m to £22.5m as cider has gone out of fashion with the trendy lines aimed at younger drinkers losing much of their appeal.

Straight talker takes on airline barons

BY KATHERINE BUTLER in Brussels

THE unpretentious straight-talking ways of a Flemish farmer's son blended with a gracious charm have made Karel Van Miert something of a media darling in Brussels. But he leaves his smile and his perfect manners outside the door when it comes to dealing with the giants of global business such as British Airways.

Next week the European Competition Commissioner will finally rule on BA's long-delayed alliance with American Airlines and the betting is that Mr Van Miert will be as steely and unyielding as he has been in past encounters with the big battalions of the aviation industry.

Brussels has been investigating the BA-AA tie-up for almost two years along with a number of other alliances between European and US carriers and Mr Van Miert is determined that if it goes ahead it will not be to the detriment of competition and airline passengers.

In the early stages of the investigation Mr Van Miert came under attack from BA bosses who accused him of flawed reasoning and delaying tactics. But like other big merger candidates before him, BA has ended up having to take Brussels seriously and how to impose on the alliance. Mr Van Miert is determined that BA and AA must surrender at least 250 precious runway slots at Heathrow as the price for permitting the deal to proceed.

"I think they probably expected to get away with it in Britain on conditions which would suit them," he says. "But if they expected us to keep quiet and close our eyes, they were misguided and they underestimated the role of the Commission."

"Do you think this is a game between gentlemen?" he says, raising an eyebrow. "We are talking about big companies trying to get their way without having to respect the law."

Profile: Karel Van Miert, ensuring fair play before British Airways and American Airlines join forces



Van Miert: "We are talking about big companies trying to get their way without having to respect the law"

Mr Van Miert insists he is not out to stymie big business. "It is utterly unfair to suggest that," he says, presenting himself as the impartial referee in a global game of football - the man the little guy or consumer can rely on to make sure there's a level playing field and to uphold the rule of law.

Although Mr Van Miert has nothing in principle against mergers - the Commission has blocked only nine out of the 800 which have been referred to it in the last 10 years - the rigour with which Brussels vets them and the conditions attached are likely to get tougher.

"More and more the question will be asked: Is this not going too far?" he says. He cites the extent to which competition has been squeezed out in a number of different markets. In civil aviation, there are "only

two big guys left and only one, Boeing, which is able to offer the full range of aircraft." In auditing and consulting, only the big five accountancy firms have survived. "So other big companies start to worry and complain and they expect the Commission to act... we have to be consistent. This is not always understood, and on top of that the perception of the cases is always a very national one."

Mr Van Miert says he is as immune to political pressure as he is to sniping from international boardrooms. He shrugs off recent attempts by the German government to force him to back down on the Kirch-Bertelsmann television link-up ruling. "If you have been around as long as me you know you have to live with this. It is my constant preoccupation to ensure the Commission operates

as an independent authority." Nor does he have any time for German calls for a new European competition agency, entirely separate from the Commission. Some, he says, would seize on this merely as the opportunity to emasculate the Commission.

Mr Van Miert admits, however, to some alarm at the volume and complexity of cases the Commission is having to take on with limited resources and staff. "More and more, we are not just approaching but touching the limits of what we can reasonably expect from our officials and that is a real problem," he says. The cases are becoming more complicated, but also the burden of having to translate every document into the EU's 11 official languages is enormous. Cartel investigations in Scandinavia have been hampered by language barriers, he admits.

The result, he concedes, is that the Commission is having to prioritise, tackling the most urgent cases first and leaving others on the back burner. "Take the airline alliances," he says. "We will be criticised for not handling them all together. We opened them all together but we simply do not have the human resources to see them all through to conclusion simultaneously."

The charge from across the Atlantic is that Mr Van Miert's motivation is the protection of European industry rather than strict adherence to competition rules. The grumbling rose to open criticism when he threatened to rule against the link-up between Boeing and McDonnell-Douglas unless Boeing renounced exclusive supplier deals. But Mr Van Miert remains defiant about his handling of this high-profile case. "The US just did not take us seriously," he says. "They thought they could get away with it. They were utterly mistaken. They had to accept that in the EU we now have a fully fledged competition authority and they did not like it one bit. But does that mean we should refrain? Absolutely not!"

MONDAY: Companies reporting: Baring Emerging, LIBERTY, Toad, Carmel Ltd, Kewill Systems, Interiors, Beale, Fairfield Enterprise, Milnorplanet System, Richard. Economic indicators: Provisional money supply figures for June. Final money supply figures for May. Consumer credit figures for April.

THE WEEK'S DIARY

TUESDAY: Companies reporting: Fisons, Debenhams, Tesco, BH, Greene King, Karwood Appliances, MFI, Peel Holdings, TGI, Top Estates, Whitecroft. WEDNESDAY: Companies reporting: Fisons, Marston, Thompson & Evershed.

Hotel, Merrydown, Bulmer (HP) Holdings. Economic indicators: Official reserves for June, Housing starts and completions for June, CBI Distributive Trades survey for May. FRIDAY: Economic indicators: PMI services survey for June.

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SPORT

Wimbledon: Henman and Smith fire home hopes as they try to clear a path through the smoke and reach quarter-finals

British players come to the fore

BY JOHN ROBERTS



VISITING THE All England Club yesterday was a rather strange experience. For one thing, the sun was shining. For another, a British woman, Sam Smith, was practising for a match in the fourth round. On a sombre note, the journey along Somerset Road entailed passing the home (or former home) of one of the first-week losers, the Australian Warren Jacques.

Jacques' playing career ended years ago, but as a coach he will be remembered as the British Davis Cup captain prior to Tony Pickard and David Lloyd. On Saturday, Jacques and his wife, Helen, were working for Radio Wimbledon when television pictures showed smoke billowing from their apartment at the top of one of the two tower blocks overlooking the Centre Court.

The Jacqueses, who had been living in the apartment for only four months, discovered that all their belongings had been destroyed in the blaze, which is believed to have been started by an electrical fault. An adjacent apartment was also ruined, but not before the resident raised the alarm. No one was injured.

Down on the Centre Court, Tim Henman was in the process of advancing to a fourth-round match which sees the British No 2 return to the great arena today to play Australia's Pat Rafter.

On Court No 1, Monica Seles, who has experienced more than her share of problems in the past, wondered if it was safe to continue playing her third-round match against Yayuk Basuki, of Indonesia. "The smoke was pretty bad and both Yayuk and I felt we should stop," Seles said, "but in the end it was probably better to just go on."

Seles, who won 6-2, 6-3, is scheduled to play Sandrine Testud, the French No 14 seed, after the Henman-Rafter match on the Centre Court, where play opens with Pete Sampras' unfinished business with Sweden's Thomas Enqvist. The defending champion leads 6-3, 5-5.

Britain's heroine, Sam Smith, whose match was over before the smoke began, is due to set foot on Court No 1 for the first time this afternoon, having taken the precaution of a peek at her post-natal workplace yesterday. Smith's reward for defeating the No 8 seed, Conchita Martinez, who overcame Martina Navratilova to win the title in 1994, is a place in the world's top 60 and an opportunity to become the first British woman to reach the quarter-finals since Virginia Wade in 1979.

To accomplish that, and to take her winnings from £25,100 to £48,070, Smith must first account for the experienced Nathalie Tauziat, the French No 16 seed, whose grass-court game is always a danger. Smith does not have a reputation for grunting, which is perhaps as well, since it was Tauziat, it may be remembered, who first blew the whistle on Seles here in 1992.

Jo Durie, once ranked as high as No 5 in the world, was the last Brit to play in the fourth round of the women's singles (her prize in 1985 was £5,950). Durie lost to the American Barbara Potter. Some of Britain's representatives since might have struggled against Beatrice Potter.

Henman, who spends a good deal of his time playing backgammon during the rain breaks, joined Rafter in a game of cricket on Saturday. Indoors, of course, in the locker-room to be precise, 10 men versus boredom.

A piecemeal championships is difficult for everybody. "We were on and off the court for three days," said Arantxa Sanchez Vicario after defeating Magdalena Grzybowska, 4-6, 6-4, 6-3. The Polish hopeful had to face Arantxa on the first day, Sanchez on the second day and Vicario on the third day. The Spanish No 5 seed, who is projected to meet Martina Hingis in the quarter-finals, sets off again today in a third-round match against Austria's Sylvia Plischke.

Jacques will forgive your correspondent for mentioning that whatever set his house on fire had nothing to do with what was taking place on the Centre Court. Henman was heading for a fifth set against Byron Black, of Zimbabwe, until a suspect baseline call enabled the Oxford player to break back for 5-5. Henman's win, 6-4, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5, left room for improvement today.

"I haven't taken enough of the opportunities I've created," Henman acknowledged, "and against a good serve-volleyer like Pat [Rafter] you're not going to get so many chances."

Rafter has struggled to pull his game together this year, having defeated Greg Rusedski, the British No 1, to win the United States Open last September. After losing at Queen's Club less than a fortnight before heading for SW19, both Rafter and his compatriot Mark Philippoussis, wondered if the short journey would be worth making.

Australia is guaranteed one quarter-finalist, with Philippoussis due to play Jason Stoltenberg, from New South Wales, in the fourth round, and the sixth-seeded Rafter appears to have risen from his depression.



Tim Henman on the way to beating Byron Black and a last-16 meeting with Australia's Pat Rafter

Robert Hallam

"Yes," Henman said. "I think 'Wimbledon' is the word that answers that. It's probably the most prestigious tournament in the world, as I've said numerous times before. And it just goes to show how, like a match can turn around quickly, how the same thing can happen with your thoughts about your situation."

"In the second round in Ros-

malen [the week before Wimbledon], Rafter won a tough match against [Andre] Medvedev and went on to win the tournament. All of a sudden he's feeling really good about his game. Two days before that, he was wondering what he was doing. Likewise with Philippoussis. When you go through your ups and downs, you've got to keep plugging away."

While it seems doubtful that Shearer, Beckham, Owen et al will be asked if they have been inspired by the deeds of Henman and Smith, England's World Cup campaign has made an impact in the interview room at Wimbledon. Henman was asked if he felt he must not let the nation down.

"No, not at all," he responded.

"The nation doesn't come into it at all. When I go on the court, I have great support, but in an individual sport, you have to play for yourself. If I put my game together on the court, then everything else will take care of itself."

Best not to mention the flag of St George flying atop the worker's cabins here.

Smith graduates to centre stage

Britain's No 1 woman player has jumped the credibility gap with a stylish victory over a former champion. By Guy Hodgson

Smith hobbled into a press conference on crutches on Wednesday would have wondered if she would be perpendicular against Martinez, the 1994 champion, never mind defeat her. The 4-1 scoreline in the Spaniard's favour after Friday's first attempt to beat the weather hardly encouraged hope either.

The crowd on Court No 2 seemed to think so too because Smith began on Saturday before a wall of empty seats. This was partly due to an early start, but also because the expectation of failure was not a spur to hurry. A British girl beating a former Wimbledon champion? Come on, pull the other one.

Instead the early comers were able to witness the rebirth of hope in home women's tennis. You waited in anticipation for the classic British outcome, the gallant loser, only for Smith to confound us all. Her 2-6, 6-3, 7-5 victory was not just a surprise, it owed nothing to fortune. "I thought I'd played well enough to deserve the match," Smith said, "and when I watched the highlights on Saturday night it confirmed it."

You could point to any number of moments when you thought Smith could do it - a comeback from 15-40 in the first game of the second set; breaking back straight away in the third - but the realisation thumped home after Martinez had kept her waiting before a service deep into the deciding set.

You expected Smith to be thrown by this. Instead she played the Spaniard at her own game, going back between points to towel down her face and racket. Her heavily-strapped ankle looked like Rusedski's and so did her mannerisms. "It's so easy to rush things," she said, "to try to force points."

If that makes Smith sound different from the standard British

women's tennis player then she is. A promising teenager, she was considering giving up tennis for three years to take a history degree at Exeter when confirmation she had post-viral fatigue syndrome made up her mind for her.

"I was selected for the 1992 Olympics and it wasn't until I went to the Olympic clinic that they realised there was something radically wrong. I wasn't well enough to continue tennis." Her progress since returning, complete with a BA, three years ago will be confirmed when she emerges from Wimbledon with a world ranking in the 60s. Invitations for the big tournaments and potential access to more points beckon.

Suddenly, astonishingly, as much attention will be on Smith on Court One against the 16th seed, Nathalie Tauziat, today as it will be on Tim Henman. "I'll take it in my stride," she said. "I watched how Tim coped with everything a few years ago and learned a lot." Her sabbatical at Exeter will be of assistance, too. "I saw the other side of life. I got away from tennis and maybe my perspective is greater than a lot of other players because of that."

It needs to be. Smith shares the same management as Paul Ince and, when she was on court on Saturday, the England footballer watched the match on television and relayed the action, giving a ball-by-ball commentary over the phone to the agent in his car. As Smith had been buoyed by England's performance against Colombia, it was nice to return the compliment.

Can she now return to Tauziat, unbeaten at the grass-court Edgbaston tournament for two years, and not be overwhelmed by the support from the crowd? She takes encouragement from the mounting excitement on Saturday.

"I did notice it at the end, but I kept my mind on the job. A couple of years ago I played Irina Spirlea on that court and I was distracted by the noise, everyone freaking out. I learned a lot from that and put it together against Martinez. Tauziat's a very good player. She's experienced and won a lot of tournaments but I'm playing really well at the moment. I'm not going to be thinking about her I'll just focus on what I have to do. I'll go for it."

'Pistol Pete' keeps firing

Richard Edmondson sees the world No 1 show few signs of weakness despite apparent portents of a loss of form

PETE SAMPRAS started on Centre Court at 3.21 on Saturday before a crowd which had been told his motivation had left and taken with it his serving prowess as a travelling companion.

The American consequently delivered a game of aces. In fact, it was not until Sampras' fourth service game that his opponent, Thomas Enqvist, actually managed to get a ball back in play. "Pistol Pete", it seems, is not quite yet the faded gunslinger slumped at the saloon bar over a glass of red wine.

It will surprise those who watch tennis for just a fortnight a year though to learn that Sampras has not won a Grand Slam since he embarrassed Cedric Pioline in the final here 12 months ago. His Slam total stands at 10, one fewer than Bjorn Borg and Rod Laver, his boyhood idol, and two behind Roy Emerson, who, in retirement, is proving as difficult to pass as he was in competitive life.

Sampras prefers grass to clay, the quick kill of a duel in the morning mist rather than a game of chess. A recent demise at Stade Roland Garros, his ninth failure in the French Open, was therefore fairly predictable. It did, however, offer drops of blood into the water for the circling fins of his rivals.

"He's not winning too much and I think he's about the 10th-ranked player at the moment. He hasn't done too well in the Slams, so yes, he is struggling," Richard Krajicek, the 1996 Wimbledon champion, says. "Maybe he is not as motivated as he normally is. If he starts saying that some tournaments are not as important it is a sign that his motivation is not as high. So this is a very big tournament of the year for him. If he doesn't do well here it is going to be very difficult to keep the No 1 spot."

Sampras, who resumes against Enqvist at 6-3, 5-5 today, is rather less worried about his desire. "This is obviously the biggest tournament we have in the game and if you can't get up for an event like this then you shouldn't be playing," he says. "This place, over the years, has brought out the best in me and you get a little more keyed up and fired up going out there at 2.00 on Monday. I'm very keyed up for this event. I've had a lot of good memories playing here and hopefully I can recapture my form here."

When you draw a line down the middle of the page and list Pete Sampras' attributes and then his weaknesses the design begins to look like a motorway. Everything seems to be piled up your left-hand side, while the other lane is almost completely free. But Sampras is more a Roundhead than a Cavalier, a winning automaton. He is admired rather than embraced at Wimbledon because you can't love a machine.

Off court he is charm itself, a man so trustworthy and kind you could leave your bugle with him if you went on holiday. The active Sampras has a little more malice. "You are thinking about taking your opponent's heart out," he says when discussing his court mood. "You squeeze it until all the blood comes out, even the very last drop, and you have won."

As he trails a fifth title here, Sampras has shown all his old hegemony. He treats the loss of a set like the loss of a finger. The champion does not give them away lightly: in 1993 he lost four; then just one the following year; six in 1995 and three last year. In his two matches thus far this time around he is yet to drop a set. Against Dominik Hrbaty and Mikael Tillstrom his serve has been surrendered just once, and, in the process, he has sent down a massive 36 aces.

So the old lion, contrary to the jungle telegraph, does not yet look ready to leave the pride. As he crashed away on Centre Court on Saturday the billowing smoke from an overcooking flat seemed an appropriate symbol. It reminded of the beacons our ancestors used to light when the most feared of foreign invaders had arrived.



Sam Smith savours her victory over Conchita Martinez

YESTERDAY MORNING, by permission of the groundsman, Sam Smith was allowed on Wimbledon's Court One. She is Britain's best women's player, but she has had no experience of playing there before.

While Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski have lifted their heads out of the conic's repertoire, our women had stayed in the music hall. The line ran Ann Jones, Virginia Wade, Sue Barker Jo Durie, or what's her name. Being British No 1 has been a passport to being anonymous.

Which, as Smith would acknowledge, was partly down to herself. Wimbledon is where you make your name as far as this country is concerned and she had avoided the limelight with rigorous efficiency. Before this week she had been to Wimbledon five times and failed to win a match, but her success against Conchita Martinez on Saturday has suddenly propelled her into a somebody.

"You win a tennis match and suddenly you're on the front page of a national newspaper," she said. "It's surprising." As much as anything because it was a huge surprise. Anybody who had seen the 26-year-old

Dream takes Honours for France

BY SUE MONTGOMERY
at the Curragh

THE SMILE on the face of Pascal Bary as he led Dream Well into the victory circle here said it all. The dapper Parisian had smarted a little when his French Derby hero had been deemed inferior to High-Rise, winner of the original, but yesterday's four and a half length romp to win the 133rd Irish Derby set the record thoroughly straight.

Dream Well, who led on the Curragh furlong out with Cash Asmussen sitting virtually motionless, had the Epsom runner-up City Honours trailing vainly in his wake. "High-Rise beat him only a head, didn't he?" said Bary, pointedly.

With the ground at the Curragh officially on the heavy side of soft, endurance was always going to be at a premium, but Dream Well showed he is a cut above being merely a slogger. As outsider Risk Material led into the straight and kept going under maximum pressure from Shay Heffernan it almost seemed that there was an upset in the offing. But only momentarily; a glance at a horse-length or two back and it was clear Dream Well had to fall over to lose.

Once Asmussen, in the two-tone blue of the Niarochs family, released his hold on the bay colt's blinkered head the race was effectively over. Dream Well accelerated, the only question was by how far, and Saeed Bin Suroor, trainer of City Honours for the Godolphin team, had no complaints.

"The winner is a better horse," he said. "Ours stays, but he can't quicken like that."

The market was a telling guide. Dream Well hardened to 2-1 favourite as City Honours drifted from 7-2 to 4-1. The 40-1 shot Desert Fox, who came from nowhere to deprive Campo Casino of third place a length behind City Honours, was the best-backed of the outsiders.

The other British challenger, the Henry Cecil-trained Sadian, finished last of the 10 runners and returned feelingly on his off-foreleg. Risk Material, too, may have come back a little sore; Heffernan received the maximum on-the-spot punishment of a 10-day ban for his excessive attentions with the whip.

Dream Well was the 47th French-trained horse to contest the Irish Derby, and the sixth to win. He is also the first French-trained French Derby winner of the trio who have completed the Chantilly-Curragh double; his predecessors were based in Ireland (Asser) and England (Old Vic).

He gave Asmussen, who had a brief, unsuccessful spell in Ireland earlier in his career, the first Irish Derby winner. "He stumbled slightly leaving the stalls," the Texan said. "I had wanted to be close to the pace in case it was a false one because of the ground, but when I gave him a kick to catch up he jumped straight into the stride and was a little keen along the back in among horses."

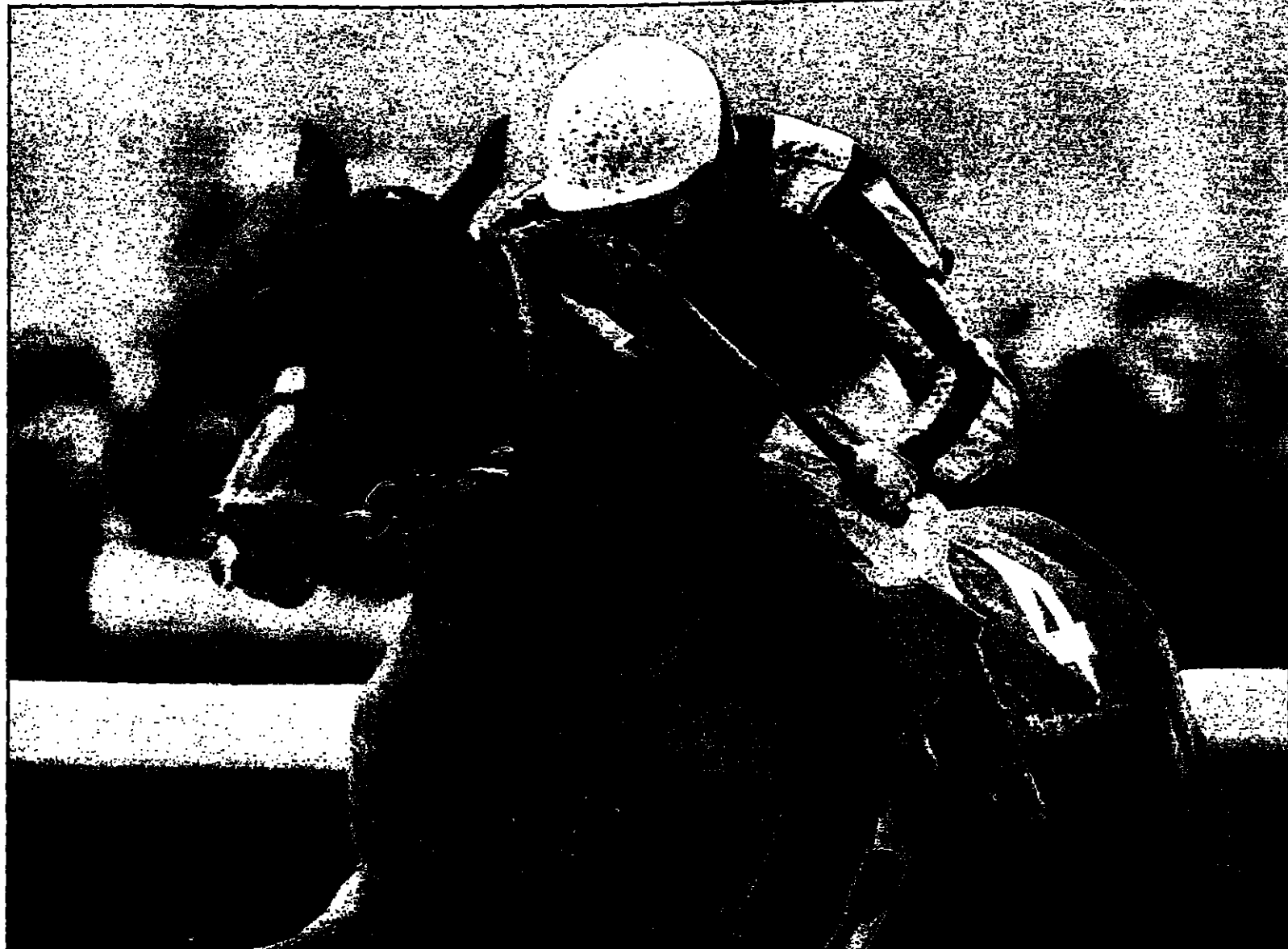
"But I was very happy with the way he was going, skipping through the ground. The rain overnight had loosened it up and the fresh strip we were on

was very even. And once we reached the straight and the horses fanned out I had no problems at all."

Dream Well was Bary's third French Derby winner after Celtic Arms and Ragmar. The 45-year-old Chantilly-based trainer also sent out Miss Alleged to win a Breeders Cup Turf, but rates Dream Well the best of the lot. The Sadler's Wells colt will now have a summer break until his prep-race, probably the Prix Niel, before the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe and a possible showdown with High-Rise. "In the Jockey Club he showed he was tough," Bary said, "but today he showed he is brilliant. He is the best I have trained, and I am not afraid of any horse in the world."

That racing took place yesterday was only due to the above-and-beyond efforts of racecourse manager Brian Kavanagh and his team after the course had been rendered untraceable after two hours of rain on Saturday evening.

Sure, the Irish take their racing a touch seriously. But Derby day is not only an international showcase for the sport but also for the burgeoning economy and style of Ireland itself. To have closed the show before the start turn would have been verging on the unthinkable; come hell or in this case - high water, it had to go on and at midnight on Saturday the local fire brigade were still out there pumping between the seven and four-furlong markers. But even so the go-ahead was to race only after a seven o'clock inspection yesterday morning.



Dream Well and Cash Asmussen take the Irish Derby by storm at the Curragh yesterday

Julian Herbert/Allsport

Fallon's July ban

KIEREN FALLON will miss the final two days of the July Meeting at Newmarket after picking up a three-day ban for careless riding at the Curragh yesterday.

Fallon rode Memorie to victory for Henry Cecil in the concluding Curragh Cup, but the two-length conqueror of Stage Affair drifted across the runner-up inside the final furlong.

Although the stewards allowed Memorie to keep the race, they suspended Fallon for three days, 8-10 July, meaning he will miss the Wednesday and Thursday of the July fixture.

Fallon will not contest the ban. "There wasn't much I could do but I did my best to keep the horse straight," he said. "The stewards here are very fair and they have a job to do and had a difficult decision to make. I won't be thinking about an appeal because appeals don't normally work in your favour."

Silver Patriarch was a disappointing odds-on favourite when fourth to Fragrant Mix in yesterday's Grand Prix de St-Cloud. Peter Chapple-Hyam's Romanov was second.

RESULTS

DONCASTER

2.00: (mud handicap)
1. RARE TALENT (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
2. Mizzled (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
3. Bunting (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
4. Finesse (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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2.30: (mud handicap)
1. SILENCE REIGNS (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
2. Mizzled (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
3. Bunting (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
4. Finesse (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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3.00: (mud handicap)
1. BROADSTAIRS BEAUTY (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
2. Mizzled (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
3. Bunting (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
4. Finesse (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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3.30: (mud handicap)
1. LA MODISTE (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
2. Mizzled (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
3. Bunting (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
4. Finesse (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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4.15: (mud handicap)
1. LAGB (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
2. Mizzled (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
3. Bunting (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
4. Finesse (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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4.50: (mud handicap)
1. GLANCE (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
2. Mizzled (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
3. Bunting (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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5.15: (mud handicap)
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2. Mizzled (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
3. Bunting (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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5.45: (mud handicap)
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2. Mizzled (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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6.15: (mud handicap)
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3. Bunting (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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GOODWOOD

2.10: (mud handicap)
1. SILENCE REIGNS (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
2. Mizzled (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
3. Bunting (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
4. Finesse (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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2.30: (mud handicap)
1. SILENCE REIGNS (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
2. Mizzled (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
3. Bunting (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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3.00: (mud handicap)
1. BROADSTAIRS BEAUTY (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
2. Mizzled (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
3. Bunting (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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3.30: (mud handicap)
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3. Bunting (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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4.15: (mud handicap)
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4.50: (mud handicap)
1. GLANCE (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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5.15: (mud handicap)
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5.45: (mud handicap)
1. LAGB (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
2. Mizzled (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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6.15: (mud handicap)
1. LAGB (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
2. Mizzled (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
3. Bunting (1) (J. J. Allen) 1-11
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3.15 Donna's Double
3.45 Angel Hill

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Second round: Divided by a common passion, England and Argentina renew historic hostilities

A legacy of skill laced with spite

BY NORMAN FOX

ENGLAND V ARGENTINA: a fixture with an edge made spitefully sharp by past controversy and conflict. To be re-enacted tomorrow, it promises probably the most uncompromising match of the World Cup so far. Argentinian football is a blend of the pretty, the passionate and the pretty vicious. Ironically, the English can take some of the credit and the blame.

It was the arrival of English sailors in Buenos Aires in the 1860s that provided the game's roots. Unruly matches were played on wasteland around the port, but as more British people settled, so the schools they set up played a slightly more reputable game. Clubs were formed by the British-owned railway companies and Buenos Aires FC was founded in 1867, though it consisted entirely of British and Italians.

Although the locals formed the Quilmes and Rosario Cen-

tral clubs, a teacher at the English High School, Alexander Watson Rutton, became the first president of the Argentinian Association Football League, which was set up in 1891. For years afterwards the statutes of the association were written in English, though largely disregarded as the organisation of the game struggled with breakaway groups and bitterness between Boca Juniors (a port-based, working-class club founded by an Irishman, Patrick MacCarthy) and River Plate, portrayed as middle class.

In later years it became customary for the best players to move abroad, to the detriment of the national team. The export business has never stopped. A glance at Argentina's squad today shows that only six of the 22 players are home based.

Although they have twice won the World Cup, Argentina's real contribution to the world game has been an endless supply of outstanding players,

among them Alfredo Di Stefano, Mario Kempes, Diego Maradona and the much maligned (in England) Antonio Ubaldo Rattin.

To suggest that Rattin, Argentina's giant defender and captain in 1966, was a superb attacking centre-half remains rather like insisting on emphasising that while Maradona cheated England with his "Hand of God" goal against England in 1986, he actually finished them off with one of the most astounding goals ever seen in the World Cup.

Rattin is remembered only for standing belligerently, hands on hips at Wembley, defying the little German referee Rudolf Kreitlein, who was trying to send him off. Without him Argentina knew they were lost. With him they may well have won the cup. His action epitomised Argentina's ability to confound themselves. England went on to win 1-0.

The countries have met three times in the World Cup. In 1962, in Chile, England's team was built precariously around Johnny Haynes. Argentina had several bright ball players and others, like Rattin, who was making his debut, with shoulders like wall ends. England found their form. Bobby Charlton was unstoppable and Jimmy Armfield defended faultlessly. England only went out to a Garincha-inspired Brazil, while Argentina slipped away in the first round.

The 1966 Argentinian side was much better. Indeed, Alan Ball said: "If they had concentrated on their football, they would have given any team trouble". In a way they did. They caused trouble throughout,



Diego Maradona fists in his 'Hand of God' goal in 1986, souring England's already uneasy relations with Argentina

never more so than at Wembley. The Fifa disciplinary committee reported later that they "brought the game into grave disrepute by their flagrant breaches of the Laws and good order". Hurst pulled England through. Alf Ramsey said teams should not "act like animals". Fifa told him off. England won the World Cup.

The footballing relationship between the countries again sank to a low ebb when, in a 1977 "friendly", Trevor Cherry had teeth knocked out by Daniel Berti in Buenos Aires, but it was Cherry who was sent off. Yet English fans still admired that Argentinian side and came

to love the fragile little Osvaldo Ardiles, whose delicate skill sparked the World Cup winning side and later adorned Spurs. He arrived in England with the bearded Ricardo Villa, who scored an amazing winning goal in the FA Cup final replay of 1981, the year before the Falklands war. During the conflict Ardiles diplomatically moved to France before later becoming the Spurs manager. The hostile atmosphere before England's World Cup match in Mexico City in 1986 was determined by repeated references to the Falklands, but the first half was quiet. The second opened with Steve Hodge passing the ball back to Peter

Shilton, who hesitated as he tried to punch it. Maradona's hand was above his and drove the ball into the net. He famously described it as "A little bit of the hand of God... a little bit of the head of Maradona".

It required his brilliant run between English defenders for a second goal, and his contributions towards making Argentina worthy world champions against West Germany, to make English supporters admit that perhaps the little man was a genius as well as a cheat.

Maradona now does little more than criticise today's Argentinian team. The memories of his brilliance began to fade in 1990, when he was cruelly

kicked by all his opponents, notably West Germany in an ill-tempered final. Problems then heaped up. He left Italy after being tested positive for cocaine, was suspended for a year, and later accused of dealing in drugs. Nevertheless he seemed to get himself fit for the 1994 finals and was seemingly dynamic against Nigeria. Later a drugs test discovered ephedrine.

Is there a new Maradona about to cause more trouble for England? Perhaps not yet, but little Marcelo Gallardo is on the verge, while, in defiance, Roberto Ayala could be as effective as Rattin should have been 32 years ago.



Antonio Rattin, the Argentine captain, argues against his dismissal with referee Rudolf Kreitlein in 1966. Allsport

Sir Alf Ramsey suffers stroke

BY TREVOR HAYLETT

SIR ALF Ramsey, the manager who led England to World Cup glory in 1966, is recovering in hospital after suffering a stroke. He was said last night to be "comfortable" with his wife Vickie and close family at his bedside.

Officials of the Football Association have expressed concern and asked to be kept informed of Sir Alf's condition. "It is terrible that he has fallen ill right in the middle of the World Cup," said an FA source. "We are hoping that an England victory against Argentina will be the perfect tonic for him."

It is thought Sir Alf, 78, was admitted to hospital about ten days ago. Martin Peters, who scored one of England's goals in the Wembley victory over West Germany, said: "This is a terrible shock. I went to see Alf eight weeks ago and he was fine, still playing golf. 'We wish him well and bearing in mind the World Cup is on, we should remember what he achieved for this country.'"

Sir Alf, born and brought up in Dagenham, won 32 caps as an England full-back and made 226 appearances for Tottenham. He managed England between 1963 and 1974 - he was knighted in 1967 - and re-

mained upset that there was no role for him after he was dismissed.

His reward for leading England to their Wembley triumph pales alongside today's bonuses. In 1966 it was only enough to buy the unpretentious four-bedroom detached house that remains his home in Ipswich.

Concern for Sir Alf's health was first expressed in 1993 after he failed to turn up for a memorial service in honour of his World Cup winning captain, Bobby Moore, who died of cancer aged 51.

Ramsey's adopted daughter Tania Jauch, who lives in the



Ramsey: 'Resting quietly'

United States, denied at the time that he was suffering from Alzheimer's disease and insisted he was in "good health".

A spokeswoman at Ipswich Hospital said: "I have spoken to his (Sir Alf's) wife. She said he has had a slight stroke and is resting quietly. He is on a normal ward and is only seeing his family and close friends."

French rate Scholes ahead of Ronaldo in world's best

BY JOHN LICHFIELD AND GLENN MOORE

PAUL SCHOLES is in. Ronaldo is out. A World XI chosen by the French sports daily *L'Equipe* after the first stage of France 98, includes the England and Manchester United midfielder but excludes the man regarded by many as the world's greatest player.

L'Equipe has covered every game in the World Cup in detail and awarded a mark out of 10 to each player. The newspaper's "team of the first stage" is based on an average of these scores, in which six is regarded as very good and eight outstanding. (Two England players - Anderton and Beckham - merited that outstanding

eight against Colombia in Lens). Scholes averages 6.5, including 7.5 in Lens. "I was pleased with my performances against Tunisia and Colombia," he said. "I was not so pleased with the Romania game, I did not have a shot or make anything."

"We let Romania dictate the pace in that game. It was too slow. We didn't let Colombia do that. We had a lot of options. Michael Owen's pace, David Beckham's passing and crossing, Alan Shearer, Darren Anderton."

This positive approach is common to England's young players who, said Scholes, are eagerly looking forward to tomorrow's match against Argentina. "There's no pressure

on us. They're the favourites," he said.

The finest outfield player in the tournament so far, according to *L'Equipe*, is France's - and soon to be Chelsea's - Marcel Desailly, who has averaged 7 points. He is matched only by the Tunisian goalkeeper, Chokri El Ouer.

The *L'Equipe* team, based on games played so far, curiously contains two players from Chile, who have since been eliminated, but neither of the competition's leading scorers, Gabriel Batistuta and Christian Vieri.

WORLD XI (4-4-2): El Ouer (Tunisia) 7 pts; C. Carr (Brazil) 6.17; Zidane (France) 6.53; Desailly (France) 7; Ronaldo (Brazil) 6.5; Luis Enrique (Spain) 6.33; Scholes (England) 6.5; Jugovic (Yugoslavia) 6.33; Garcia Aspe (Mexico) 6.2; Laudrup (Denmark) 6.07; Zamorano (Chile) 6.07.



DIARY

A ROMANIAN fan is spending four hours a day with his head immersed in the bath praying to God to help his country win the World Cup in a unique attempt to mix water divining with divine intervention.

Ioan Moldovan, not thought to be related to the Coventry striker who began the unravelling of England's defences in Toulouse last week, had by all accounts been a model family man until two weeks ago when something strange overtook him with the start of the World Cup. The 44-year-old engineer has subsequently told psychiatrists he is Romania's only "human amphibian", while his wife, Adriana, has called for the authorities to cut the water supply to the family home to bring him to his senses. "Better to die of thirst and go unwashed than to continue seeing my husband every morning in the water and believing that Romania will win the World Cup," she said. "I've come to hate football. I want my husband back the way he was."

THE CHELSEA player-manager, Gianluca Vialli, is hoping the World Cup throws up a penalty miss to rid him of the dubious distinction of being the last to fail (disregarding shoot-outs) from 12 yards at the World Cup. Since his miss for Italy against the United States in 1990, 38 penalties awarded in the finals - including 13 this time round - have all been converted. The last goalkeeper to save a penalty was Tony Meola of the United States, who in 1990 caught a soft shot from Michal Bilek in the match against Czechoslovakia, though his side lost 5-1 and Bilek scored an earlier penalty.

JAMIE REIDENAPP, who was ruled out of Glenn Hoddle's 22-man squad through injury, has escaped the frenzy over England's game with Argentina tomorrow to holiday in Bermuda with his girlfriend, the singer Louise. It's a move which has led to speculation on the honeymoon island that the pair were poised to beat David Beckham and Posh Spice and make a permanent alliance between football and show business. Jamie's brother, who is in the holidaying party, denies that a wedding is in the offing, but if it happens you know where you read it first.

TREVOR HAYLETT

QUOTES OF THE DAY

"In the second half we played the kind of football I like and we will play it from now until the end." Brazil coach, Mario Zagallo, sending an ominous warning after his side beat Chile 4-1 on Saturday.

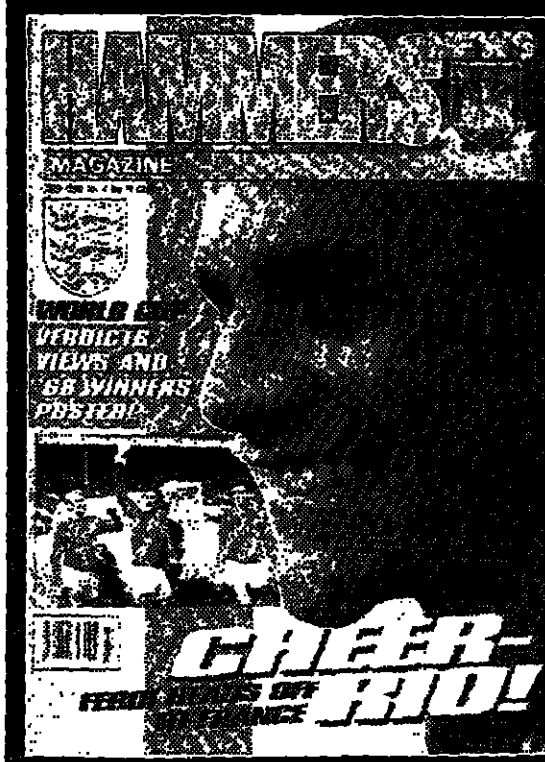
"When we move up a gear then I'd like to see a team who can beat us. But that is for us. That pressure situation gives us an extra push."

Germany's Jürgen Klinsmann, not to be outdone in the ominous warning stakes, before today's game with Mexico.

"I'm not very impressed by Italy. It was more because we didn't play well that we lost."

Norway's gracious Egil Olsen, after his side went out of the tournament. "When I saw the ball go towards Peter Shilton it was like being a kid again - I was having a laugh." Diego Maradona explains the thoughts that went through his head on scoring his 'hand of God' goal 12 years ago.

OUT NOW!



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£4m Kluivert set to join Arsenal's foreign legion

BY ALAN NIXON

ARSENAL ARE making a bold £4m attempt to sign the Netherlands and Milan striker Patrick Kluivert. The manager, Arsène Wenger, has been cleared to bring the forward to Highbury where he would join fellow Dutch internationals Dennis Bergkamp and Marc Overmars.

The Gunners have sent an agent to the Dutch camp at the weekend to secure Kluivert on a four-year contract. Kluivert, sent off in last week's group match against Belgium, should not need much persuading to come to London after an unhappy season in Italy. Milan have already Oliver Bierhoff moving to the San Siro next season, limiting further the Dutchman's chances of playing. A move to Arsenal has the added allure of a Champions' League campaign next season.

After being turned down by Brian Kidd and Kevin Keegan, Everton are now turning to Coventry City's Gordon Strachan in their hunt for a new manager.

The Goodison chairman, Peter Johnson, will approach

Coventry this week for permission to speak to Strachan. Johnson is impressed by the way Strachan has transformed Coventry with shrewd signings and attractive football.

Strachan recently signed a long-term deal at Highfield Road, but Everton believe their potential will lure him to Merseyside. Johnson wants a

replacement for Howard Kendall this week and has renewed his efforts after Kidd chose to stay at Manchester United and Keegan at Second Division Fulham.

Christophe Dugarry, the France striker, is the subject of a £4m offer from Rangers. The Ibrox club's new head coach, Dick Advocaat, is attempting to

Rangers clear Smith for Wednesday move

WALTER SMITH is expected to be named as Sheffield Wednesday's new manager today after the Ibrox club cleared the way for him to replace Ron Atkinson, writes Alan Nixon.

Smith had the option of staying at Rangers, where he was offered another role in conjunction with the new head coach, Dick Advocaat. However, Smith - who guided the Glasgow club to seven consecutive league titles and six domestic cups - chose to return to management and has

already lined up moves for free agent Andy Goram and his former assistant, Archie Knox.

The Rangers vice-chairman, Donald Findlay, yesterday admitted that he was not surprised at Wednesday's interest in Smith. He said: "I haven't spoken to Walter for a while because he has been away in France at the World Cup, but there is a job here for him and as things stand. But if he wanted to go somewhere else, we would respect that. It is entirely his decision."

The 56-year-old admitted he had received several approaches from Parkhead about taking over after his involvement in the World Cup was over.

However, after Norway's 1-0 second-round defeat by Italy on Saturday, Olsen said he will be taking six months out of the game to have a hip replacement operation.

"I was flattered by Celtic's interest but I must go into hospital for the operation and that will keep me out of football for six months," Olsen said. "Celtic need a coach now and I decided my health has to come first."

Paris embraces a love of change

WHAT A skunk! And a traitor to boot. He should have been standing four square, shoulder-to-shoulder, with the rest of the nation at Lens on Friday night. Instead of that he faintly catches the train back to Paris and watches the game at a comfortable brasserie off the boulevard St Germain, while having dinner with a tall dark Corsican woman named Marie. The very idea is scandalous. This man brings shame on the otherwise impeccable name of the fanatical England supporter. Today I reveal the identity of this traitor and deserter.

Me. Men culpa. I plead guilty as charged. My only argument in mitigation is post-traumatic stress syndrome. After the Toulouse debacle, the tension in Lens was too much for me.



ANDY MARTIN
AT LARGE IN FRANCE



I couldn't face another major let-down. I had to cover myself with a sidebet on dinner in Paris. Apparently General de Gaulle was also prosecuted for desertion by the Vichy government and, like him, I am happy to return to the fold now we have been liberated.

It was a night of magical metamorphosis: from colourless chrysalis into gorgeous butterfly, it was England unbound, born-again England, and

England more like Brazil than England, almost more like Brazil than Brazil. A night when joie de vivre and self-belief returned to England. The status of English bystanders instantly shot up. "My God!" gasped Marie, "you really know how to play, n'est-ce pas?" She had been counting on either France or Italy (she is half-Italian) to win, but now she too was having to think in terms of side-bets. At the table next to us, a

young American couple were celebrating the woman's birthday, but they were toasting England and wishing me congratulations. Having been denounced as a thug for the last week or so and persecuted by police and seeing anxious mothers remove children from my path and warn them that they had better behave or the Anglais would get them, I was happy to share, for a change, in the reflected glory.

I began to have an inkling what it was that made the Brazilian fans so relentlessly joyful. On Saturday night it was the penalty spot after being hauled down by goalkeeper Nelson Tapia in stoppage time.

A half-time deficit of 3-0 to the defending and world champions fully justified the old mountain-climbing cliché, but Acosta's players set about the task with admirable spirit.

It simply was not enough. Brazil moved into cruise control, with Sampaio missing a simple chance to complete a hat-trick and then Ronaldo hitting the inside of Tapia's post midway through the half.

Chile hit back with a headed goal from Marcelo Salas, which was scant reward for a tireless performance alongside Ivan Zamorano.

But Brazil simply stepped up a gear and responded with another goal a minute later, Ronaldo sending Tapia the wrong way to score his third goal of the tournament.

He could have made it more in the closing minutes when he hit the bar following a wonderful move down the left, where Roberto Carlos showed through on why he is the best left-back in the world.

When it was all over, Ronaldo hugged his Internazionale team-mate Zamorano, who did not seem too unhappy to have lost to such a team. "When you play a team that has players such as Ronaldo and Cesar Sampaio, who can score at any time, you are really up against it," he reflected. "But we are proud of the way we played."

Chile's coach, Acosta, was similarly gracious in defeat. "It was a very positive performance from my side but we met

them when I realised they seemed to be talking in French. "Lucky for me you speak French," I said. "This is because we are French," laughed the hair. "Then why are you dressed up as Brazilians?" I said in my naivety. "It is because girls can never refuse anything to Brazilians," said the beard. "Especially Brazilian girls."

The hair explained to me that they weren't interested in le foot so much as in la fête and the point of the exercise was to grab as many women as possible in one night. On Saturday their count was into the twenties. "But if Brazil reach the final that'll be nothing."

Chile given a Brazilian master class

BY GERRY COX
at Parc des Princes, Paris
Brazil
Sampaio 11, 27,
Ronaldo 45 pen, 70
Chile
Salas 69
Att: 48,500

THE FLOWING football, intricate passing and breathtaking skills were what we had come to expect in this World Cup - it is just a shame that Chile are now out of it.

The team that embarrassed England at Wembley not so long ago again showed the invention, technique and application that has made them one of the surprise packages of France 98, but they were still outclassed in every department by a Brazil side that fully justified their position as hot favourites to retain the golden statuette in two weeks' time.

Rarely can a side have played so well and lost 4-1 in the finals as Chile did, especially in the first half of an encounter that summed up the "beautiful game", a phrase made famous by Pele, Brazil's favourite son. And the fact that Chile did not incur an even heavier defeat was largely down to the fact

that the latest man to try and emulate the greatest player of all missed two golden chances which would have led to an undeserved margin of defeat for Nelson Acosta's side.

Ronaldo scored twice but hit the woodwork on two occasions, and thus failed to become the first Brazilian to hit a hat-trick in the World Cup finals since Pele did so in 1958.

But how the old master must have loved watching this current side, who are now beginning to show why they can become the most exciting Brazilian team since Pele and the class of 1970.

Even Mario Zagallo, as hard to please as any coach in world football, was happy with his side's performance, although ominously he warned that they can get even better.

"Our second-half performance was the best we have played, the way I like my teams to play," he said. "In the first half we did not play so well but we scored three goals."

That was down to a combination of poor defending and bad luck on the part of Chile, who started the game brighter and looked capable of causing an upset - for all of ten minutes.

When Cesar Sampaio rose unmarked to head home Bebe's free-kick, an air of inevitability began to take over. The tall midfielder scored a second goal midway through the first half after a Roberto Carlos free-kick cannoned off the wall, and then Ronaldo scored from the penalty spot after being hauled down by goalkeeper Nelson Tapia in stoppage time.

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He could have made it more in the closing minutes when he



Cesar Sampaio congratulates Ronaldo after his first and Brazil's third goal at Parc des Princes

Reuters

Firework parties on Rio streets

ECSTATIC BRAZILIANS cheered, set off fireworks and poured out to the streets of Rio de Janeiro in celebration of the national team's passage into the World Cup quarter-finals.

Thousands of fans draped in Brazilian flags, with painted faces and wearing yellow and green national team shirts celebrated in carnival-like street parties after Brazil's 4-1 trouncing of Chile on Saturday.

In a game which typified the way in which Brazil can slip from the sublime to the mediocre within minutes, Ronaldo's second-half run through the heart of the Chilean midfield and a 35-metre free-kick from Roberto Carlos were two of the most memorable moments of the competition so far.

In Paris, the Brazilian coach, Mario Zagallo, was reflecting on his star player's contribution to the team's best performance yet in the World Cup. "Ronaldo was... better," he said. "He's still not the Ronaldo we all want to see. He has a lot more to give, and I'm sure we'll see it in the games we have left."

Ronaldo, his team-mate, said: "Ronaldo has the fame. He's the best player in the world, and the marking is always individual and tough. He had a great game, and with two goals I'm sure he will be happier."

Chile, meanwhile, returned home proud of having reached the second round for the first time in more than three decades.

"We're not happy because we lost," their coach, Nelson Acosta, said. "But if we analyse the job we did in the last month, we should be happy. We had a great first round."

Italy punish Norway for their negative approach

BY PHIL SHAW
at Stade Velodrome, Marseilles
Italy
Vieri 18
Norway
Att: 60,000

AS MEMBERS of one select band, the six nations who have won the World Cup, Italy will not be boasting about having joined Australia and South Korea in another comprising the only teams to have beaten Norway in 30 international dating back two and a half years. Nevertheless, France 98 owes them a debt of gratitude.

Christian Vieri's early goal did more than validate an exemplary tactical game by an Italian side who gave the impression of holding something in reserve. It also ensured that Norway's relentlessly negative strategy, which was as guileless as their coach, Egil Olsen, was graceless in defeat, will not trouble the finals further.

After the last match of his eight-year reign, Olsen used the verbal equivalent of his team's long-ball game to dismiss Italy afterwards. "They are a bad team," he said. "They are mediocre, and we should have done better."

Did he defend his decision to play a solitary striker? "Yes," he snapped before turning on his heels in transparent contempt of the question. Maybe it is as well that Olsen says he has been rescued from Celtic - Old Firm fixtures tend to be more heated affairs than this.

With victory secure, Cesare Maldini saw no need to be drawn into conflict with his counterpart. Norway, he said, had been very hard to beat. His son and captain, Paolo, seemed amused by the criticism responding with a rhetorical question: "We might be (a bad team), but who's in the next round?"

The Italians were baffled by Norway's approach, Maldini Jr explained. "I don't understand them. They were 1-0 down and still didn't want to come out and play. Did they expect us to attack them when we were winning? Do they think we are stupid? At this stage, one team stays and the other goes home. We tried to win more than them."

Giuseppe Bergomi, a World Cup winner 16 years ago, and back in defence at the age of 34, shared his colleague's disdain. "Norway are not a football team. They don't play what I call football," he said in a matter-of-fact manner.

Since they are out, let us not dwell too long on Norway. In brief mitigation of Olsen, he has given his country's football a higher profile than ever, less than 20 years after the parliament in Oslo debated disbanding the national side because they were so bad.

Whether reaching the last 16 justifies the numbing one-dimensionality of it all, must, however, be doubtful. For an academic who is reputedly keen on Camus, Sartre and Kierkegaard, Olsen's football philosophy denies full rein to the imagination of a talented squad.

But what of the Azurri? Three weeks into the tournament, we are no clearer as to whether they are potential champions again; or whether the weaknesses which made their qualifying process so fraught will resurface. Luigi Riva, the Vieri of the side who lost the great 1970 final to Brazil, now chain-smokes for Italy in his role as a team companion. He considered they were getting a little better with each match. "But," he added, "They can still improve a lot further."

They were seldom obliged to move into overdrive or placed under intense pressure during their group fixtures, and Norway were either unwilling or unable to push them to the limits on this occasion.

What is evident is that however workmanlike Italy may be in midfield - with the exception of the blossoming Luigi Di Biagio - and for all their spasms of uncertainty at the back, they possess the best striking partnership in the competition. Ronaldo and possibly Oliver Bierhoff maybe better individually, but there is no more dangerous duo than Vieri and Alessandro Del Piero.

Vieri, bursting on to Di Biagio's pass 40 yards from goal, displayed awesome upper-body strength to resist Den Eggens challenge before burying his fifth goal of the finals with exquisite precision. One British newspaper reported that Aston Villa were offering Stan Collymore to Atletico Madrid in exchange for Vieri. They could throw in the rest of the squad

and Doug Ellis's Rolls and still not come close.

Del Piero was an elusive and inventive foil. To watch them in full cry and to see a substitute of the quality of Roberto Baggio standing by, is to be reminded of why the coach felt he did not need Gianfranco Zola or Pierluigi Casiraghi.

Norway had their moments, usually when Erik Mykland and Kjetil Rekdal played through rather than over the Italians. Yet they tested Gianluca Pagliuca at close range only once, the keeper saving brilliantly from Tor Andre Flo's header when the Chelsea beanpole finally escaped the diminutive Fabio Cannavaro 19 minutes from time.

Manchester United's Henning Berg later argued that if his compatriots had played like they did against Brazil Italy's tendency to defend too deep and leave space in midfield would have been punished. "France are the better side," he insisted, "And I think they'll beat them." The whiff of sour grapes was in the air - which is, after all, where Norway are happiest.

ITALY (4-2-1): Pagliuca (Internazionale); Costacurra (Milan); Bergomi (Internazionale); Cannavaro (Parma); Maldini (Milan); Moriero (Internazionale); Albertini (Milan); Di Biagio (Roma); Di Biagio (Parma); Vieri (Atletico); Del Piero (Juventus). Substitutes: Di Lillo (Juventus) for Moriero; 62; Pessotto (Juventus) for Albertini; 72; Gilson (Parma) for Del Piero 77.

Norway (4-5-1): Grodås (Fritzthumli); Berg (Manchester United); Eggen (Celta Vigo); Johnsen (Manchester United); Sjerve (Liverpool); H Flo (Wendell); Mykland (Parma); Rekdal (Hertha Berlin); Leonhardsen (Liverpool); Ruesch (Lier AS); T A Flo (Chelsea); Substitutes: Strand (Rosenborg Trondheim) for Leonhardsen; 13; Solbakken (Aalborg) for Strand; 39; Stokke (Manchester United) for H Flo; 73.

Referee: B Heymann (Germany).



NOT GOING TO THE WORLD CUP THIS SUMMER?
LET VAUXHALL BRING IT TO YOU.

Italians hail new heroes

ITALY'S PROLIFIC striker, Christian Vieri, and their goalkeeper, Gianluca Pagliuca, were the players being heralded as heroes in Italy yesterday.

Vieri, who scored Italy's winner in Marseille against Norway took his tally to five in France '98 so far, and said he did his job against the Norwegians.

He added he was not obsessed by the idea of scoring other goals in the next matches, or clinching the title of top World Cup striker.

"The less you think of scoring the more you put the ball into the net. In any case what really counts is to keep on winning. I think Italy can go a long way into the tournament," Vieri said.

Pagliuca, the Internazionale keeper who preserved Italy's lead with a sensational save of a short-range header by Tore Andre Flo, said he was lucky to stop the ball just on the line.

"I stopped it by instinct. On a wet field the ball could have slipped into the goal," Pagliuca said.

Italian players unusually met reporters in the castle-hotel where they live - usually banned to the media - before taking a half-day off. Preparation for Friday's quarter-final against France begins at Italy's training camp at Senlis today.

Not everyone was impressed by the Azzurri's win. The Norway coach, Egil Olsen, said: "We met a bad Italian team." He added: "I am bitter about that match, it was a bad match. We had some chances and we could have scored."

"I'm not very impressed by Italy. It was more because we didn't play well that we lost."

Olsen's criticism cut little ice with the Italians. "What makes me laugh is that they were losing 1-0, they had 10 men behind the ball and they expected us to come forward," said the cap-

tain, Paolo Maldini.

"We're not as stupid as the other teams they played," he added, perhaps having a little dig at the Brazilians following their 2-1 defeat by Norway in the first round.

The Centre-back Fabio Cannavaro, who had the better of a tremendous battle with the towering Norwegian striker Tore Andre Flo, was equally unmoved.

"Their coach might be disappointed in us but the fact is we beat his side," he said. "We're used to playing under these conditions, with people criticising us, but it doesn't bother us."

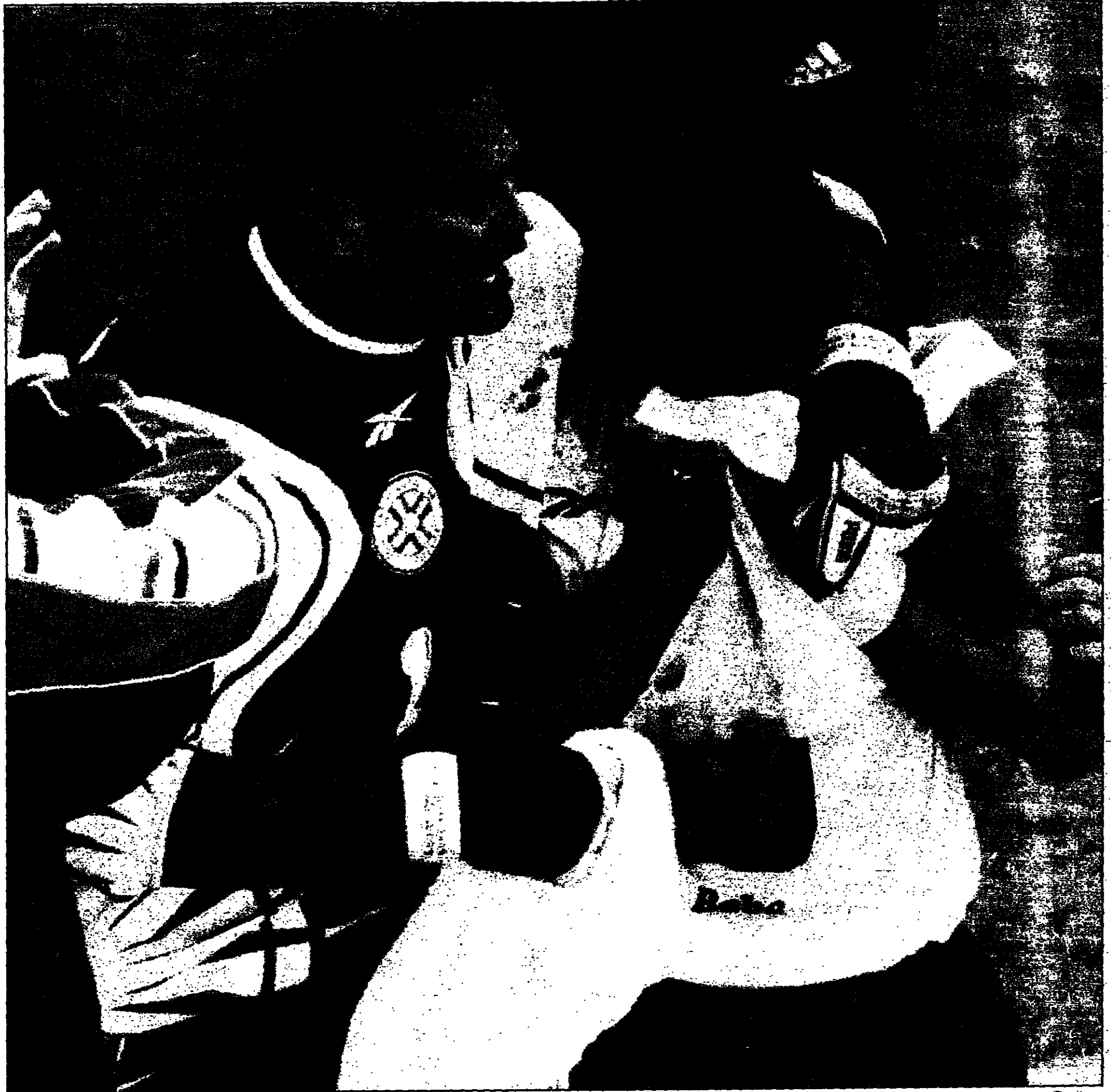
Alessandro Del Piero, meanwhile, who is yet to score a goal in France and missed at least three scoring chances before being substituted after 77 minutes, received the support of his coach and team mates.

"I think that he has kept it in reserve for the next game," said coach Maldini. "I am happy with Alessandro," he added. "I am happy with the way we played yesterday. We took no risks." Roberto Baggio, who stayed on the bench on Saturday, also lent his support to Del Piero.

"He's in the same position I against Nigeria," he said. "He needs a goal to unblock himself."

Baggio did not score in the USA '94 until the fourth game of the tournament. He then hit two against Nigeria, followed with another against Spain and then put two more past Bulgaria.

Italy reached the final where they lost to Brazil. Baggio, after doing so much, missed in the penalty shoot-out. Baggio has already scored in France '98, while Christian Vieri has scored five goals in four matches, to make him the highest scorer so far.



Paraguay's goalkeeper, Jose Luis Chilavert, consoles team-mate Roberto Acuña after yesterday's golden goal defeat against France

Reuters

Ciao Norway



We send our congratulations to Norway. But, being called Nastro Azzurro (which means blue ribbon) you'll understand why we're with the Azzurri all the way. After all, you have to look after Numero Uno.

Peroni's Nastro Azzurro. Italy's Numero Uno Beer.

Germans have pedigree to hold off Mexico

TO SAY that Jürgen Klinsmann is confident going into today's second-round game against Mexico would be an understatement.

"If we move up a gear and if we win one-on-ones, then I'd like to see the team that's going to beat us," the German captain said yesterday, before the team flew from Nice to Montpellier to face the South Americans this afternoon.

The Mexicans did not seem overly impressed by their opponents' performance so far, however. "I'm glad we're playing the so-called greats. We're not afraid of them. On the contrary, we look forward to the game," the midfielder, Jesus Arellano, said.

"Germany is one of the big

ones, but we know we can beat them."

The German team has plodded into the second round, playing some of the dullest soccer of all 16 qualifiers for the second round. But the European champions did win their group and the Germans grow as the tournament gets longer.

"One or two things are not working so well," said the coach, Bert Vogts. "We have to come better over the flanks and our midfield is not working well."

Vogts was a bit more cautious about Mexico than his captain.

"We have been warned. They came back in every game, and they showed very good morale. I am not surprised," Vogts said.

Mexico rallied from two-goal deficits against both Belgium and the Netherlands to earn 2-2 draws. Mexico also beat South Korea 3-1 after falling a goal behind.

The Germans also have a reputation for never giving up. The European champions have already proved that by battling back from 2-0 down to earn a draw against a dangerous Yugoslav team in their second Group F match.

If the Germans have not been convincing so far, history speaks for them: three World Cups, three more finals.

Mexico have beaten the Germans only once in their eight clashes since 1968. The last time the two countries met in the World Cup was in the 1986

quarter-finals in Mexico where Germany just scraped through after a penalty shoot-out.

Lothar Matthäus, 37, is the only player left in the German team who played that day.

"Whether people like it or not, the main thing is winning," he said. "The Germans still win and they win well."

The Germans are expected to start the match with the same team that finished against Iran last Thursday with Matthäus at sweeper and Thomas Hässler as the attacking midfielder alongside Thomas Helmer and Dietmar Hamann.

Mexico rely on Luis Hernandez, with his late-goal heroics - three goals so far - and his partner Cuauhtemoc Blanco.

Kluivert ready for return

PATRICK KLUIVERT, the Netherlands striker, may return to action today after a two-match ban for striking a Belgian defender.

The Netherlands coach, Guus Hiddink, has not revealed whether Kluivert will start, but the chances are that he will not. The coach has praised the Milan striker for his attitude in training but he was ineffectual in the 0-0 draw against Belgium.

"I'm looking forward to the next match and not thinking of the past, but I'm not assuming

I'll play on Monday," Kluivert said. With Dennis Bergkamp still not 100 per cent fit, the most likely outcome is that Kluivert will appear late in the game as Bergkamp fades.

The Yugoslav striker Predrag Mijatovic will be fit to play in the second-round game this evening, but his striking partner Darko Kovacevic is still injured, the coach, Slobodan Santrac, said yesterday.

"There is no way Kovacevic will take part in tomorrow's

game. The rest of the players are fit," he said.

Kovacevic was injured in the 2-2 draw with Germany and did not play in the 1-0 win over the United States, when he was replaced by Savo Milosevic. The former Aston Villa striker did not play well, though, and looks set to lose his place either to the veteran Dejan Savicevic - who played for 30 minutes in the US game - or to promising newcomer Perica Ogrjenovic of Red Star Belgrade.

"Ogrjenovic will probably play but I'm not sure whether he will start the game or not. I'll make my final decision at noon tomorrow," Santrac said.

The Netherlands are still upset about their final group match with Mexico when they fell from near-perfect to abysmal in the last quarter and threw away a 2-0 lead to draw 2-2. "Mexico have taught us that we must keep pressing and not lose our concentration," Hiddink said.

THE GLOBAL GAME

WORLD CUP AROUND THE WORLD

Masami Ihara, the captain who had led his team so proudly, could not hold back the tears as he said a fond farewell to the fans. Masashi Nakayama, the scorer of Japan's historic first goal at this level, had to be lifted from the sodden turf by Japanese players and coaching staff, so deep was his grief. The Brazil-born striker Wagner Lopes,

who created Nakayama's goal with a towering header, struggled to get his words out for the television cameras.

But the most emotional scene of all involved goalkeeper Yoshikatsu Kawaguchi. Kawaguchi's frustration had grown in relation to the chances that had gone begging at the opposite end, and for the third game in a row, he found

himself on the wrong end of the narrowest of defeats. "Yomiuri Shimbun", Japan's biggest-selling newspaper, reflects at length, and with some emotion, on Japan's exit from the World Cup.

"TWO GOALS from Theodore Tappa' Whitmore gave Jamaica a 2-1 win earlier today over Japan, their first in a World Cup finals, in an entertaining group H game where pride more than points were at stake." "Jamaica Gleaner" reacts to the same event.



SPORT



ENGLAND CALL ON BEN HOLLIOAKE P27 • BRITAIN'S ATHLETES RULE EUROPE P25

Blanc's golden strike for France

BY KEN JONES
at Stade Félix-Bollaert, Lens

France 1
Paraguay 0
Golden goal in extra time
Att: 41,275



HOW NERVOUSLY a nation watched, how nervously France played, held by Paraguay to within six minutes of a penalty shoot-out here yesterday when Laurent Blanc's golden goal, the first of this World Cup, secured a quarter-final place.

Frustrated by Paraguay's negative strategy and heroic defending, France were confronted by the unthinkable possibility of being eliminated from the tournament. The policy of surging from midfield to compensate for the absence of a quick-footed natural finisher founded on the inability to penetrate Paraguay's bravely held trenches and profligate finishing.

The confident air France took into the match soon dissolved into one of growing anxiety as Paraguay threw back attack after attack: non-football perhaps but applied so effectively that the South Americans had gained enough confidence by the second-half to increase the volume of their counter-attacks.

Marcel Desailly's titanic presence at the heart of France's defence, his speed over the ground and fluent interceptions, kept Paraguay's threat to occasional efforts from free-kicks and corners but this was not matched by France's work at the other end of the pitch.

Aimé Jacquet described it as the sort of match that can give a coach ulcers: "Paraguay played very intelligently and with great spirit, not allowing us to build any self-belief in our attacking play," he said.

The loss of Zinedine Zidane through suspension was soon evident as France grew careless in their build-up, giving the ball away unnecessarily, this falling the reason why they were unable to establish a convincing rhythm.



Laurent Blanc fires past Paraguayan goalkeeper Jose Luis Chilavert to give France victory with the World Cup's first golden goal yesterday

It was becoming more and more obvious that Paraguay were playing in the hope that something would come their way in the sudden death of extra time or that victory would come from a penalty shoot-out.

Even then they might have won it, when Carlos Gamarra shocked the French defence with a headed thrust at a free-kick sending it only inches wide of Fabien Barthez's left-hand post.

But Paraguayan legs were going their attacks now rare as France piled forward in an attempt to avoid the uncertainties of extra time.

The method of attempting to settle matches with a golden goal presents coaches with a dilemma. Can they afford to attack while leaving themselves vulnerable? It led to both teams playing cautiously, restricting the flow of support to the front players.

Possessing an edge both in technical ability and energy France kept threatening, going wide, trying to unravel Paraguay's defence with low centres but time after time the ball was smothered often only a few inches from Paraguay's line.

One attempt was bootied desperately clear with Chilavert beaten and then Chilavert plunged to his left to make a fine save.

With time running out, the crowd tense with the suppression of every French attack, fearing the uncertainties of a penalty shoot-out, France finally struck. Trézéguet headed down a centre from the right and Blanc sent the ball past Chilavert with a flourish of his right foot.

Pandemonium broke, Barthez sprinting almost the full length of the field from his goalmouth to join his men in celebration. France were through to fight Italy in the quarter-finals. Relief was everywhere.

FRANCE: Barthez (Monaco); Desailly (Lyon), Blanc (Marseille), Desailly (Chelsea), Thuram (Paris), Dierckx (Internationale), Deschamps (Juventus), Petit (Arsenal), Henry (Monaco), Diomède (Auxerre), Trézéguet (Monaco), Subissat (Pau), Pires (Nantes), 85; Boghosian (Gaziantep) for Petit, 75; Riquelme (Almería) for Diomède, 77.
PARAGUAY: Chilavert (Vélez Sarsfield), Acea (Ferroviária), Gamarra (Corinthians), Aguilar (River Plate), Sarabia (River Plate), Acuña (Real Zaragoza), Paredes (Olympique), Benítez (Estudiantes), Echibe (Internacional), Cardozo (Metz), Campos (Peking Guoan), Subissat (Nantes), Cruz (Azuul) for Campos, 35; Cardozo (Olympique) for Paredes, 75; Rojas (Estudiantes) for Cardozo, 91.
Referee: Mohamed Bouslim (UAE).

Ball-carrying speed has been central to their play but without Zidane's hand on the wheel of their attacking swirl it became aimless and therefore unproductive. Chances soon began to slip away, each miss adding to France's frustration.

Launching another raid along the left Petit next set up David Trézéguet but this time the subsequent shot flew over Chilavert's goal. Another opportunity, this one again falling to Trézéguet who pulled the ball horrendously wide.

Bernard Diomède was the next to miss shortly before Henry staged a marvellous solo effort, running fully 40 yards through a defence that was suddenly caught flat-footed and

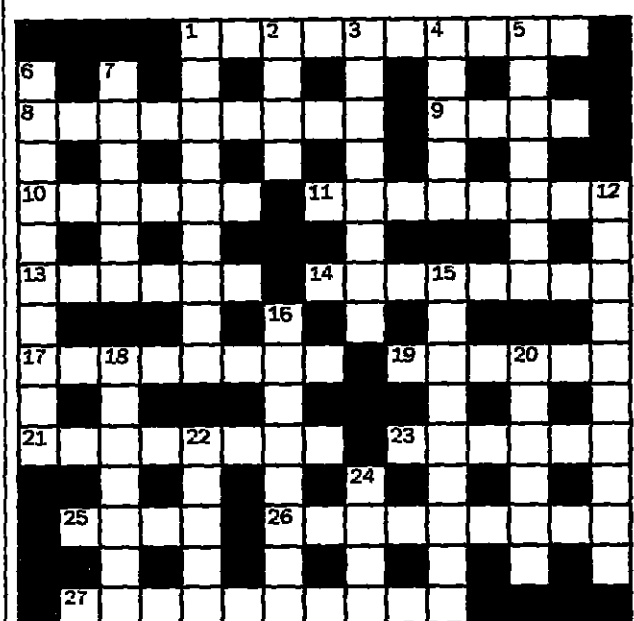
without cover. Henry and Chilavert was an interesting confrontation. Henry shot, Chilavert was beaten but the ball rebounded off the post.

There was no sign in the second-half that France could pick up the momentum and they ever began to lose control in midfield as Paraguay got quickly amongst them.

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

No. 3649, Monday 29 June

By Fortia



ACROSS

- 1 Am not rough in dealing with music producer (5-5)
8 Immediately see a Latin quote on old weapon (2,1,6)
9 Empty except for European (4)
10 Wet patch of colour (6)
11 Hear tell eccentric's completely sane (3,5)

DOWN

- 13 Being conscious of heartless void (6)
14 Rum resident? (8)
17 Wait without hesitation to get groupie (6-2)
19 Considerable degree of enthusiasm? (6)
21 Number reflected in wonderful drawing (8)
23 Generating more by seed (6)
25 Show off dress that's

- back to front (4)
26 Independent state of Florida caught in rates rise (9)
27 Big shot? (10)
1 Seminal work of French female (9)
2 Bone in a painful, nasty break (4)
3 Sounds like he had minor rash (8)
4 Check soldiers nevertheless (5)
5 Fool made it out of breeze block (7)
6 Shrine to Elizabethan statesman? (10)
7 Bad actor allowed to make play (6)
12 Pedestrian's heading for the ground, apparently (10)
15 Rousing time signal? (5,4)
16 Power to act against subordinate (8)
18 River one's about to follow in West Africa (7)
20 Swallow most of the cocktail (6)
22 Encourage German in pride of bearing (3,2)
24 Old King's to hold out, we're told (4)

Maradona haunts Hoddle

BY GLENN MOORE
in La Baulé

IT WAS 12 years and one week ago, Glenn Hoddle was sitting in a state of shock in a small room, deep in the subterranean bowels of the Azteca Stadium, Mexico City. Outside, 114,580 fans were on their way home, still discussing Diego Maradona's extraordinary goals against England. The second, in which he beat half a team, was remarkable enough but it was his first, which he had punched in, which was dominating conversation.

It was also at the forefront of Glenn Hoddle's mind. "It was a feeling of total injustice," he recalled yesterday of his mood after that World Cup quarter-final defeat to Argentina. "It took me four days to get over it when we got back."

So Hoddle sat there in the stifling heat alongside Terry Butcher, each trying in their dehydrated state, to produce a drug sample. Then in walked Diego Maradona.

It was not as tricky a moment as might be imagined. "We didn't blame him, we blamed the referee (Tunisia's Ali Ben Naceur). I shook hands with him on the pitch and I didn't have a problem with him. I didn't say anything, my Spanish isn't too good, but it was a

good feeling in there - though I don't think big Terry was in the same frame of mind."

The handball still clearly rankles with Hoddle though. While he studiously avoided notions of "revenge" - "a horrible word," he said - he sees Tuesday's second-round tie as "a chance to redress the balance". In a curious mix of praise and complaint, Hoddle, the only survivor in either party from 1986, offered words to both stir and calm what will be a tense atmosphere in St-Etienne.

"I never felt retribution towards Maradona. I've seen him since and it's not a problem. What he did was instinctive, he probably thought he'd be booked. He was a great player, for me the greatest individual talent ever, better even than Pele. Pele was a better team player, and in a better team, but no man will ever influence a World Cup by himself as much as Maradona did in 1986."

"I watched a lot of his games in Italy (where Maradona, at the cost of near-bankrupting the club, steered Napoli to their first title), and they always had two men on him."

"But this is a big game for us. It was no injustice in '86. It decided the game. It had been very tight until then. The second goal was a great goal but

we were still stunned - it wouldn't have been scored if he hadn't got the first one. People say the Argentines regard it as redressing the balance for 1966 (when Antonio Rattin was sent off at Wembley), but you cannot put the two together, they're miles apart - it was a blatant handball."

"Would I be happy if we won with a goal like that? We won't need a goal like that. I would rather play Argentina than Croatia because I think we'll play better against them. People would expect us to beat Croatia, while Argentina are many people's favourites. But we play better with our backs to the wall. It brings the best out of us."

Friday's match against Colombia was a case in point and Hoddle added: "I was very satisfied, we created lots of chances and restricted theirs. We had a more aggressive head on and it was a great team performance."

"We are now spot-on, exactly where I hoped we would be. We have no injuries and no suspensions, and all 22 players are available. We are going into this game with the confidence of a good performance behind us. Losing a game has not been a problem, just as it was not for Brazil."

"It's about pacing yourself."

France are the form side but there is a long way to go. Argentina haven't let a goal in but they have yet to be tested. There is no reason why we can't beat them. We have a positive vibe in the camp."

The referee on Tuesday night will be Denmark's Kim Milton, who booked just one player, Lothar Matthäus, in his previous match, the 2-2 draw between Yugoslavia and Germany. Danish referees are usually on a similar wavelength to English players, and Hoddle appears happy with the choice.

Not that the game is expected to be dirty. Daniel Passarella's Argentina are far more disciplined than some of their predecessors and stand a point behind England at the top of the fair play league with four bookings and no dismissals.

In 1986 Hoddle watched the final, in which Argentina beat West Germany, in Spain. "I had to get out of the country and ended up watching it surrounded by Germans. I watched it as a neutral." This time he hopes to watch it as a partisan, in Paris, from the touchline.

After Friday England have the confidence. Tomorrow we will learn if they have the ability.

TODAY: GERMANY V MEXICO (3.30), NETHERLANDS V YUGOSLAVIA (8.0)



Evening Worship

ABBOT ALE WORSHIPPED SINCE 1799



MONDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION

Lord, forgive them

Martin (Lord Noel-Buxton to you) is an endangered species. He lost all his money, nearly drank himself to death and is a bit vague about Hague ('Who?'). For some odd reason, people want him out of Parliament (along with all the other hereditary peers)

So, to the House of Lords to meet Lord Noel-Buxton, one of those hereditary peers New Labour firmly intends to eject from Parliament. I wonder, what does it feel like to know you're about to be thrown out of a place that's been yours almost exclusively for centuries? Do you feel sad, Lord Noel-Buxton? Yes, he says, he does. "I shall miss it all, vair much. Still, I suppose it's no worse than being chucked out of any club, humm?"

Through the entrance, then through some fantastically ornate corridors and chambers. Huge portraits. Busy flocked wallpapers in red and gold. Gilt layered upon gilt. Lord Noel-Buxton is not, as it happens, much taken with the decor. "The Victorians overdid things so. I am much more a Georgian or Elizabethan man." He strides ahead, I follow. He has a mad, Michael Heseltine hair-do and lots of dandruff and is wearing his claret and navy striped Balliol tie ("We are all, to a man, Eton and Oxford here"). The House isn't sitting today, so it's vair quiet. I tell Lord Noel-Buxton that I love the way his "vair" comes out as "vair". I tell him it's enough to make me want to marry him. Plus, of course, if I did marry him, then I'd get to be Lady Noel-Buxton and could phone Fortnum & Mason and say, "Lady Noel-Buxton here. Please send round six of those wildly overpriced jams that come in the ceramic pots the Americans love and a packet of crisps. Quick. Quick." Lord Noel-Buxton looks alarmed. "Hang on!", he cries, "I'm not divorced from my third wife yet!" I must look vair crestfallen, because he then adds encouragingly: "Although it's only a technicality..."

Into the guest bar. I think, if like me, you've ever doubted life after death all the proof you need is here. There's Lord Longford, his hair growing wildly in great tufts from either side of the pate, and teetering about like some ancient Coco the Clown. There's someone else in the corner, who may be asleep but then again may be dead. There is no real way of knowing with these people. At 57, Lord Noel-Buxton may even be considered something of a spring chicken. Lord Noel-Buxton - or Martin, as I can now call him, seeing as we're practically engaged - gets the drinks in. A tonic water for him. An orange juice for me. Martin has to pay because there seems to be some rule prohibiting guests from doing so. He is perfectly happy with this arrangement because, as he says, "you may reimburse me later".

I am here today because, if Labour is going to expel these people, I'm curious to know just who the people are. So who is Martin? Well, Martin - the third Baron Noel-Buxton - is the grandson of Edward Noel-Buxton, the Labour MP who served as a Minister for Agriculture in Ramsey MacDonald's cabinet and won the title for the family. Martin's father Rufus, the second baron, was also a Labour peer. Martin, however, is Tory. Why are you Tory, Martin? "Oh, I wouldn't have felt at home on the Labour benches. I'm just much happier with the friends I made at Oxford."

Can he, I wonder, justify his right to be here, simply by virtue of being the first-born male in a particular litter? Not really, no. "I suppose all I can really appeal to is the Roman concept of *mores majorum*." Which is? "Our sense of history. This feeling that we should hang onto ancient customs because they are just so essentially English." Oh come on, Martin, I say, you could also use that as a justification for, say, sending small boys up chimneys. "Yah, it's complete crap. But it's still our best line of defence. Now, am

I getting a fee for this? I'm failing to earn millions of pounds during my time with you..."

Actually, he isn't. Martin doesn't have a job. Martin has squandered what was left of the family money. Martin has to sign on every fortnight at Clapham Job Centre. Martin is a recovering alcoholic. Piquantly, Martin has spent most of his life being drunk as a lord. Martin is, perhaps, a fine example of those brilliantly dysfunctional upper-class families who send their children to boarding schools the moment they discover they're pregnant, so they can get on with drinking themselves and their fortunes away. Martin's father - "a whiskey and Guinness man" - drank himself to death. Martin was drinking himself to death until 1994 when, with three marriages and a compulsory stay in a mental institution behind him, he decided enough was enough.



THE DEBORAH ROSS INTERVIEW

and presented himself to Alcoholics Anonymous. He was onto Special Brew by then. "Ghastly, ghastly stuff, but a jolly quick fix."

Now separated from his third wife, he lives in Battersea, south London, in a one-bedroom flat he rents from the Peabody Trust, a charity for homeless people. Here, he listens to Baroque music and writes poetry. He loves words, he says. His favourites at the moment are eschew, espouse, oversole ("it means the essence of spirituality I used it in a poem yesterday") and admixture, which is a very good word for something. "Although I can't remember what it is."

Initially, I assume he lives with someone called Horace, because he says at one point: "Poor Horace couldn't open Window's '95 the other day." Poor Horace indeed, I commiserate. What's wrong with him? "He's getting on a bit." How old is he? "He's pre-Pentium." Only then does it click he's anthropomorphised his PC. I am given a full bulletin on Horace's health. "He's not up to much these days. His brain is too tickle. He can't cope with Word '97. He keeps crashing. I haven't let him get up onto the internet. Oh no."

Lord Noel-Buxton's life might, I suspect, be somewhat under-populated. Probably, he attends the House of Lords daily as much for the company and expenses as anything. He isn't on any select committees. He doesn't seem especially active or on top

of things. When I make enquiries as to the exact power of the House of Lords, he says: "I think we can delay things by a year or something." During that year, what happens to the Commons' bill or amendment you've rejected? "I don't know, actually."

He has never heard of Clare Short. "Clare who?" I ask him what he thinks of William Hague. "Who?" William Hague? Leader of the Tory Party? Leader of your party? "Oh, yah. Meant to be a bit of a not-starter, isn't he? Vair lightweight." What he does know is that he and his fellow hereditaries will effectively have to vote themselves out of existence. Labour's Spring '97 election manifesto said the House "must be reformed" and, to this end, "hereditary peers will no longer sit or vote in the House of Lords". According to something known as the Salisbury doctrine, the House of Lords has to accept legislation foreshadowed in the Government's election manifesto, because it's what the public have voted for. The question now isn't if Lord Noel-Buxton and his ilk are going to be ejected, "it is not our place to argue against it", but when.

Martin hopes it may be a good while yet. "It takes one hell of a long time, tinkering with the constitution." Yes, of course it's absurd, to have these people as part of the democratic process. But, still, you can't help feeling a strange surge of affection for them. I'm not going to do a *mores majorum* here but, still, they are superbly English and do cheer you up in a weird kind of way. They're like those people who have picnics with deckchairs and everything in lay-bys on busy dual carriageways. They're mad and useless and hopeless, but they are part of the fabric that makes England so English and you have to have a laugh as you go by.

Plus, if the hereditaries are going to go, who is going to replace them? The life peers? Lord Noel-Buxton has a good, long grumble about these, but perhaps rightly so. The Braggs? The Allis? The Puttnams? They are no more elected representatives of the people than the hereditaries are, he says. One elite is simply making way for another. Old money is simply making way for new. What is the answer then? He doesn't know, he says. But that's OK, because no one else does either. Martin was born in 1940. His family had been rich in their own right for many generations previously, having made their money in brewing and land-owning and banking.

Rufus, Martin's father, did he work? "Good Lord, no. We didn't work! A lord meant something then. Even his father, my grandfather, didn't do anything other than be an MP." Rufus parted from Martin's mother, Helen, when Martin was two. Martin went to live with his mother in Scotland, until she died from breast cancer when he was eight. After her death, he returned to live with his father, whom he had not seen in the intervening years, and his step-mother on a farm on the family's estate in Coggeshall, Essex.

Both his father and step-mother were alcoholics. "So it's not like they were ever there for me." He was dispatched to Bryanston school quite promptly, although he'd have preferred Harrow or Eton. "But father went to Harrow and hated it. He was hopeless at sport. Instead, he played the organ, which wasn't what one did."

The thing I most admire about these people is that, given the

Continued on page eight



Martin, the Lord Noel-Buxton, photographed by William Webster

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NETWORK
INCLUDING APPOINTMENTS

Naked cheek and
the other Diana

LAST week I was walking the streets of a de-
scribed town (it was
because all the local
holiday-makers had
ed indoors to watch
team nearly lose to
avia) when I passed a
called Bar Diana. I
n't believe my eyes. A
named after you know
Yes, perhaps the first
anywhere named after
ana.

My first thought was that
seemed a little downmarket
name a drinking establish-
ment after the sainted prin-
cess. Memorial gardens, yes.
Charities, yes. But a pub?

My second thought was to
think, well, at least Earl
Spencer will be getting a cut
out of all this, and devoting
the money to a good cause,
probably.

My third thought was to
look again closely at the effigy
of the female figure outside

MILES
KINGDON

This wasn't Princess
Diana at all. This
was Diana the
huntress ...

the bar, and think how taste-
lessly revealing the costume
was. Poor Diana, to be pre-
sented thus alluringly. The
loose-fitting sports attire
made no attempt to cover the
legs and not much attempt to
cover the upper body, while
the bow and arrows over her
shoulder ...

It was the bow and arrows
that caused me to pause.
Why would Princess Diana be
carrying a bow and arrows?
Because, of course, this
wasn't Princess Diana at all.
This was Diana the huntress,
Diana the goddess, the Diana
after whom Princess Diana
was named, albeit distantly.
This Spanish bar must have
been here for years before
anyone had ever heard of
Princess Diana, alive or dead.
It was simply a bar honouring
the long gone Greek god-
dess who had ...

Had what?
I realised that apart from
the fact that she was a
huntress, I knew little about
Diana. The only firm memory
I had was of the crowd in the
New Testament running
about Ephesus shouting,
"Great is Diana of the Eph-
esians", not unlike the
crowds in London last year.
So when I got home I got
down my Larousse Encyclo-
pedia of Mythology, and
looked up Diana, or Artemis,
as the Greeks called her.

First things first. She was
nothing to do with Diana of
Ephesus, worshipped by the

Amazons. This Diana was a
fertility goddess "whose body
is tightly sheathed in a robe,
covered with animal heads
which leaves her bosom with
its multiple breasts exposed".
Robe covered with animal
heads? Multiple breasts? Not
quite the fashion note struck
by Princess Diana - she
seems to have had much more
in common with the real
goddess Diana, "who
appears to us as a young
virgin, slim and supple, with
narrow hips and regular fea-
tures. Her beauty is a little
severe, with her hair drawn
back or partly gathered in a
knot on her head. She wears
a short tunic which does not
fall below her knees ..."

She was also the deity of
sudden death, which fits in
somewhat gloomily with
Princess Diana, though
Larousse makes it clear that
where sudden death was con-
cerned, the goddess Diana
was usually at the dispatch-
ing end, and her victims were
usually young women. Diana
had a band of young nymphs
with whom she spent the
whole time hunting, and if any
of them found their attention
straying from deer to young
lovers, Diana would often get
rid of them not by firing them
but by firing an arrow
through them. Yes, it was
obviously fatal to fall foul of
Diana, especially if you were
Actaeon. Actaeon was the
young man who happened to
be out hunting and to see
Diana and the girls bathing
with no clothes on. For this
disrespect Diana shot him.

I also feel sorry for Callisto,
a nymph who was seduced by
Zeus in disguise and was
likewise given the chop by an
unforgiving Diana. This is
all the more unfair as Zeus
was Diana's father, and
Diana was clearly punishing
Callisto for what was her
own father's misdemeanour.
So there are curious parallels
between the two Dianases
(both dressed simply and ex-
quisitely, both were danger-
ous to cross, both suffered
from their royal connections,
both were keep-fit fanatics
and had philandering fathers)
and curious ways in
which they were quite oppo-
site (Princess Diana loathed
hunting, but did not loathe
young lovers).

Both Dianases also had
brothers who played parts in
their story, one of them being
Earl Spencer and the other
Apollo. It isn't safe to draw
many parallels here, as Earl
Spencer and his lawyers are
alive and well, but it is inter-
esting that Apollo had a che-
quered and promiscuous love
life, and that he twice got into
deep trouble by speaking out
against the royal family (of
Zeus, his father). However,
Apollo was also a god of
music and good taste, so
there apparently the like-
ness ends ...

Coming soon in our round-
up of Greek deities still
honoured today: a look at
Apollo Leisure, Mercury
Telephones and Athene
Posters.



This week's series focuses on sheep-shearing at Pyp Farm in Tovil, Kent. Here David Inwood gets to grips with the task

Rui Xavier

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk
E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity

Kidneys for sale

Sir: I was startled to read ("Doctors
call for end of kidney sale ban", 26
June) that an international group of
experts in medical ethics should feel
that "feelings of outrage and
disgust" are not relevant to ethical
debate.

Surely it is human sensitivities
that guide us in determining what is
ethical and what is not. To make
sales of kidneys legal would carry
many implications; not least it would
risk the poor feeling obliged or
pressured to sell kidneys when times
are hard.

What would the future hold?
Kidneys being counted as financial
assets, to be counted in means tests?
Would there be other organs that
people would sell? Would there be
commercial ventures set up in Third
World countries where organs could
be bought more cheaply?

Perhaps this is just too fantastic
and it is all just a ruse to encourage
the wider carrying of organ donor
cards - the only ethical way to help
those who are in need.

ADAM B COOKE
London W14

Sir: The sublime logic of the
International Forum for Transplant
Ethics (sic) is irrefutable. A normal
life is possible with only one kidney.
Some people manage with fewer than
the normal number of fingers, toes,
breasts or even arms and legs. No
doubt medical science will, some
time, make it possible to transplant
these, too. Or what about eyes, ears
or testicles? Perhaps the sale of these
might be "the best option poverty has
left". Might help to solve the
population problem at the same time.
SARAH SANDOW
Twickenham, Middlesex

Sir: If a free and legal market in
human organs is established, this
will rapidly become a way for
students to repay part of the debt
incurred in acquiring their degrees.
Do we look forward to the time when
all contributors to *The Lancet* will
have only one kidney apiece?
LESLEY SMITH
Hillsborough, Co Down

Dash for gas

Sir: You suggest in your leading
article of 26 June that Mrs Beckett's
proposed restriction on planning
permission for new gas-fired power
stations, to take account of diversity
and security in energy supply,
involves old-fashioned arguments.

But it is not the idea of
safeguarding a long-term indigenous
energy supply (i.e. protecting coal
reserves) that is the point at issue.
Rather it is the rate at which we are
using our gas resource that is of
major concern. You imply that gas
will be available from Europe, but
only 4 per cent of the world's gas is
there - the major percentage of the
reserves, some 74 per cent, lie in the
Commonwealth of Independent
States and the Middle East,
according to the World Energy
Council's Survey of Energy
Resources.

You oversimplify the problem by
arguing for a completely free market
in energy supply, although you

accept that "there are wider costs
which need to be taken into
account". The imposition of a carbon
tax, perhaps by the EU, would
indeed not favour coal. The carbon
dioxide (per unit of electricity)
produced by a coal-fired station is
over twice that from a new combined
cycle gas turbine (CCGT) plant, and
restricting the number of CCGT
plants to be built will not help the
Government to attain its incredibly
ambitious target for reducing the
greenhouse gases. But the carbon
tax would change the economic
arguments in other ways, for nuclear
plants produce virtually no CO₂, and
they would presumably avoid the
carbon tax. A new economic case
may then appear for building more
nuclear plants, as against continuing
the closure of the existing ones.

There is much to be said for Mrs
Beckett's line of keeping some of the
options open. In 1995 the National
Academies Policy Advisory Group
put the case for the maintaining a
mix in energy supply for electricity
generation, to include gas, coal and
nuclear, as well as renewables
(*Energy and the Environment in the
21st Century*, NAPAG 1995). Our
arguments remain as strong now as
they were then.

Professor Sir JOHN
HORLOCK FRs
Amphill, Bedfordshire

Disability, not illness

Sir: Your leader headline "Shameful
abuse of the mentally ill" (24 June)
demonstrates the continuing
ignorance of people, particularly
writers of headlines, towards
disability.

The article did credit to *The
Independent's* campaigning stance
on the dismal and tragic story of the
Longcare homes, and reflected the
justice we are seeking for people
with learning disabilities who were
abused so horrifically.

These residents have learning
disabilities. They are not mentally ill.
Learning disability is not an
illness. It is caused by damage to the
brain by genetic conditions at birth
or in early childhood. People with
learning disability will find it harder
to learn than other people and need
support to help them develop their
knowledge and independence.

BRIAN RIX
(Lord Rix)
Chairman
Mencap
London EC1

Judaism in decline

Sir: Your article on the decline in
numbers of UK Jews (27 June) is
particularly poignant in that it
inadvertently reflects the two key
ways in which orthodox Jewry has
assisted that decline.

First, it must become more
tolerant of the different shades of
Jewish opinion. This was
particularly pointed out by the Chief
Rabbi's snub last year of the funeral
of Rabbi Hugo Gryn, but is also
reflected in the lack of balance in
your own article, which only
interviewed orthodox Jews, as if they
alone represented the whole.

In our own case, my wife and I
were initially refused membership of

our local synagogue because we had
been married in a synagogue which,
though orthodox, was outside the
United Synagogue. We were thus
considered not to be "legally"
married Jews.

Second, it must become more
generous in allowing new Jews in.
The article, as with many Jews,
assumes that "marrying out" leads
automatically to leaving the faith.
However this is often the direct
result of a policy which both disowns
the Jew who marries out and also
sets up deliberately high obstacles
against bringing the non-Jewish
partner in. Given that to convert can
entail a series of arcane and difficult
tests, is it any surprise that many
couples decide to seek their spiritual
partner elsewhere?

It is time for the leaders of
orthodox Jewry to look at their own
rigid attitudes and behaviour
towards their fellow Jews if they
wish to reverse the current trend.
CHARLES HARRIS
London NW3

Football thugs

Sir: Keith Williamson (letter, 17
June) asks how many football thugs
have been handed over to the
French police by "decent"
supporters. There is an encouraging
precedent.

Eighteen months ago,
Wolverhampton Wanderers
instituted a "yellow and red card"
system for spectators who polluted
the atmosphere in Molineux with
foul language or offensive behaviour.
Any spectator can report an
offensive fan to the stewards. The
"yellow card" carries the warning
that a repeat offence will incur a "red
card" and the penalty of being
banned from the ground. The system
works: Molineux is now once more a
ground where families can safely
enjoy their sport in congenial
surroundings.

GERRY HANSON
Iwer Heath, Buckinghamshire

Sir: Barry Fantoni (letter, 26 June)
notes that no one has called for the
reinstatement of National Service
for football hooligans.

I was struck by the drunken, ill-
disciplined and disorganised efforts
of the English fans against the
French police. They were all over the
place. Their German counterparts
marched soberly down the streets in
a display of force that could only
have been achieved by professional
training. Our football hooligans need
a dose of military training to get
them up to the standard of German
hooligans, who clearly benefit from
conscripted.

PAULETTE JAMES
Bristol

Infallible atheist

Sir: Maurice Hill (letter, 24 June)
informs us, with all the infallible
certainty which only an atheist can
muster, that there are no gods,
heaven, hell etc. on the grounds that
there is no "evidence" for the
existence of these things.

Mr Hill's belief that the only
reality is that whose existence can
be conclusively demonstrated to
others rules out God by definition,

because if his existence could be
"proved" scientifically he would have
become subject to human
investigation and thus limited;
certainly not God.

It is through personal experience,
contemplation, or meditation that we
may come to an awareness of God.
The fact that we may not be able to
satisfy others of the validity of this is
no more a denial of its reality than
the fact that, for example, we may be
unable to satisfy others of a loved
one's fidelity.

ALAN PAVELIN
Chislehurst, Kent

Sir: You published on 24 June what
claimed to be a letter from a Mr Hill.
It fails to explain the beauty and
ugliness of the world; the glory and
futility of humanity; my perception of
my own nobility and depravity. The
Bible claims to be a message to
humanity from God. It suffers from
none of these drawbacks. Although I
have met neither God nor Mr Hill, I
find belief in the former to be the
more intellectually plausible option.
PAUL FERNANDEZ
Caterham, Surrey

Birmingham road

Sir: Tom Smith, managing director of
Midland Expressway Ltd (MEL),
claims the Birmingham Northern
Relief Road (BNRR) will achieve its
primary aim of providing a strategic
through route between the North-
west and the South-east (letter, 24
June). He does not say that it will
only provide that route for the 50 per
cent of car drivers and 30 per cent of
lorry drivers prepared to pay the toll
of £2.50. He does not say that MEL
can change the toll rate by however
much they like, so that even fewer
might use the route.

A primary effect of BNRR is to
concentrate traffic going to the
North-west on the M6 north of the
conurbation, to such an extent that
long-distance drivers (as well as
local travellers) can expect to find
the "West Midlands" severe
transport problems translated on to
the M6 in Staffordshire.

The BNRR project is a hugely
expensive experiment involving
massive destruction over 27 miles of
supposedly protected Green Belt.
One can understand that Tom Smith
is primarily interested in his
company making a profit from the
motorist, what one finds hard to
stomach is that the Government has
gone along with a scheme which they
said in opposition they would not
build.

GERALD KELLS
Friends of the Earth
Walsall, West Midlands

Irish mist

Sir: Has Jack O'Sullivan gone soft in
the head? Perhaps he has allowed
too much Irish mist to seep into his
brain if he can write such rubbish as,
"In Ireland, people discuss rain as
others savour wine. They dwell on
the subtle differences in its
quality ..." (Tuesday Book, 23 June).
Oh, they do all right! One of my
erstwhile neighbours in southwest
Donegal daydreams still about
blowing one of the local mountains,
Sliah Liag, to smithereens

"because it draws down all that
blasted rain and mist".

O'Sullivan blathers on: "I never
walk down a grim London street
recalling the delight of being gently
soaked in Celtic mist." Here "Celtic"
means "Irish", so eat your hearts out
Scotland, Wales, Brittany: your mist is
just not good enough! There are no
grim streets in Ireland, of course,
because they are obscured by ...

To spare us from this kind of
dribbling in the future, send the bold
Jack somewhere in the west of
Ireland for a couple of weeks
(without a car); the delights of Celtic
mystery will soon evaporate.
SEAN MAC NIALLUIS
London W9

IN BRIEF

Sir: Should judges and policemen be
required to register membership of
Freemasonry? Or would that, as
Masons claim, be an unwarranted
intrusion?

But registration is not the only
option. Perhaps professionals and
others should adopt some symbol to
record that they are not Freemasons
("We don't know who they are - but
we can know who we are.") That
would give a choice for those who
would prefer their affairs to be
handled by non-Masons. And those
providing services would be able to
attract clients from the 99 per cent
who also are not "on the square".
DOMINIC TORR
London SE3

Sir: Rosalind Miles ("Why did no one
step in to save the life of Sasha
Davies?", 25 June) is less than
accurate in stating that "many
leading Western states" have not
signed up to the Convention on the
Rights of the Child. According to the
Unicef Web page, there are now only
three countries which have not
ratified the convention: the USA, the
Cook Islands and Somalia.
BILL LINTON
London N13

Sir: Your brief report (23 June) on the
14-year-old boy who has taken a case
to the European Court of Human
Rights was incorrect to state that "a
parental smack could become illegal
after a human rights court hearing in
Strasbourg yesterday". The court has
consistently ruled that there is
nothing inherently "inhuman" or
"degrading" about corporal
punishment, stating that "a
particular level of severity" must be
reached for a punishment to be in
breach of Article 3 of the European
Convention on Human Rights.

ANNE DAVIS
Families for Discipline
Frinton-on-Sea, Essex

Sir: We write to correct Tim Adler
("Rogue traders of the film industry",
25 June). We are not "twin labradors",
as described in the above article, but
a blonde spaniel crossbreed and a tan
labrador crossbreed.

FLORA
CHARLIE
(Duncan Heath's dogs)
International Creative
Management Ltd
London W1

THE REVIEW
DAY BY DAY

MONDAY REVIEW

As well as our regular columnists, features and
expanded comment pages, Network, our
information technology section, moves to Monday.

TUESDAY REVIEW

An improved media section, with appointments,
moves to Tuesday. Visual arts and more health
pages are also Tuesday regulars

WEDNESDAY REVIEW

Fashion, midweek money pages, in addition to
finance and secretarial sections (previously
City+) will stay on Wednesday

THURSDAY REVIEW

Our education section will appear as a separate
tabloid section. Improved and expanded film
pages now move to Thursday

FRIDAY REVIEW

The architecture and science pages now move
to Friday. In addition, we will have a new law
section and our music pages

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هكذا من الأصل

When West met East and the East didn't argue

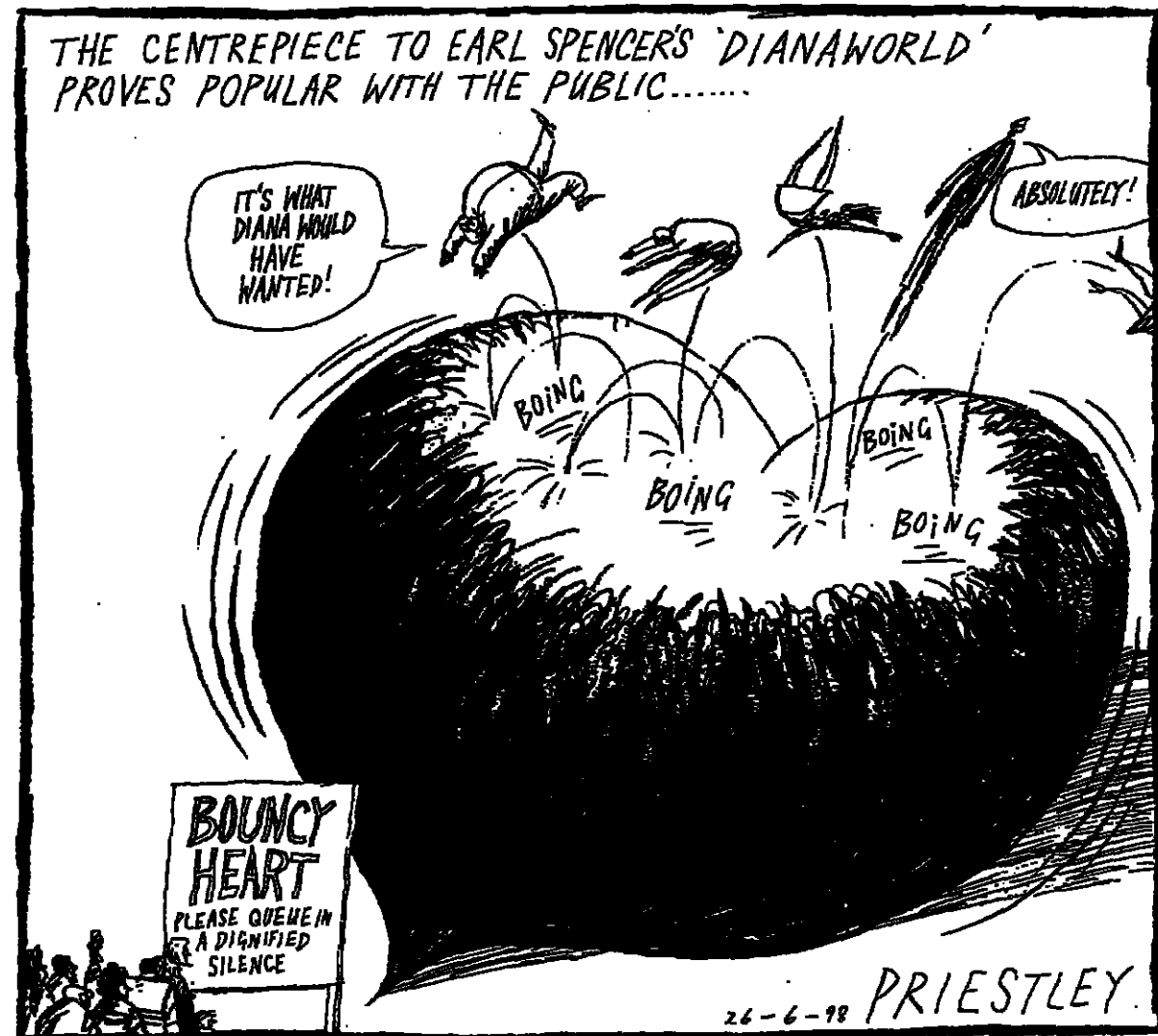
NINE HUNDRED million Chinese can have barely believed their eyes and ears when Bill Clinton appeared on Saturday on CCTV, the main channel of China's state-controlled television, and criticised the Chinese leadership. Not only that, he did it in the presence of Jiang Zemin. And not only that, the Chinese President responded in a lively, friendly and unscripted debate.

The Peking authorities probably did not intend this unexpected burst of "glasnost with Chinese characteristics". Mr Clinton had not been expected to talk about human rights, the Tiananmen Square massacre and Tibet until later. We do not know who decided to broadcast the news conference live and why they took that risk, but Mr Jiang's response, both during the news conference and afterwards, when he joked and chatted with Mr Clinton at dinner, was encouraging. To be sure, he repeated the same old propaganda arguments, insisting for example that foreign journalists were free to go anywhere in China provided they obeyed the rules - without mentioning that one of these rules is that they need permission to talk to anyone. But there was none of the sense of affront to China's pride that has greeted the raising of the issue of human rights in the past.

In this sense, Mr Clinton's visit is historic, and has confounded the President's American critics who argued that simply by talking to the godless totalitarians of Peking, he was selling out the cause of human rights.

When Richard Nixon made his "historic" visit to Peking in 1972, he explicitly recognised the right of the Chinese to a different value system. He told Chairman Mao: "What is important is not a nation's internal political philosophy. What is important is its policy toward the rest of the world and toward us." Last weekend, a quarter of a century later, Bill Clinton made a very different claim: "We Americans also firmly believe that individual rights, including freedom of speech, association and religion are very important, not only to those who exercise them, but also to nations whose success in the 21st century depends upon widespread individual knowledge, creativity, free exchange and enterprise." And Mr Jiang hardly batted an eyelid.

When Nixon went to Peking, it was an exercise in geopolitics, as he sought to use China as a counter to the Soviet Union; today's visit is more an exercise in geo-economics, seeking to promote China as an alternative engine of growth to Japan. Nixon's visit, during the Vietnam war, was about China and the US coming to terms with each other as military powers, with moral ques-



tions put aside. Clinton's trip is about the two countries coming to terms with each other as economic powers, but with an explicit linkage made between liberal economics and democracy. Mr Jiang might not be familiar with Francis Fukuyama's works, but China's elite understands well enough the contradiction between a free-market economic policy and the free exchange of information and ideas, which will make the pressure for human rights and political pluralism irresistible.

Although the broadcast was the most unexpected event in Chinese politics since 1989, we should not assume it was a signal that the communist party has decided on a new policy of openness. The country's leaders will

still assert that black is white and will probably go on rounding up dissidents at will. They may react badly if the US administration goes into triumphalist overdrive over the success of the President's lectures on human rights.

But Mr Clinton's visit has certainly been a success, and he would be justified in taking considerable satisfaction from it. It will have made an impact at all levels of Chinese society and, although there are risks of a repressive reaction, the likelihood is that it has accelerated the process of change which will eventually bring political rights to the people of a nation that will dominate the next century.

A happy child or a human memorial?

THE OVERWHELMING reaction of the press to the news that Diane Blood is pregnant seems to be an invitation to share in her "joy". While Mrs Blood has shown admirable tenacity in her battle to be allowed to have a baby using the preserved sperm of her husband, who died suddenly of meningitis three years ago, at the very least some reservations should be expressed. We are glad that the Bishop of Edinburgh, Richard Holloway, has expressed them. It was neither feasible nor right to prevent Mrs Blood by legislation from using the available technology from having the baby she wanted. And there is no doubt that, if she succeeds in giving birth to a child, it will be the much loved child of a very determined mother, which is a better start in life than many children have.

But it should also be said that - other things being equal - it is better for a child to have two parents than one. This is a view which should be expressed carefully, in order to avoid stigmatising the children, not only of the vast majority of lone parents, who never intended to be such, but also of the minority, like Mrs Blood, who intend from the start to go it alone. That is a free and legitimate choice which any mother is entitled to make, but preferably after weighing up the disadvantages. The other factor is the extent to which the child is wanted as a human memorial to Mrs Blood's late husband, which has the potential to be a burden felt by the child all its life.

Mrs Blood is a thoughtful person who knows her mind and is no doubt well aware of these considerations. We wish the best for her and her child, if the pregnancy carries to term, but refuse to see this as a fairytale story of a mother's heroic battle against adversity.

Gallic Dutch courage

ALCOHOL WAS available in Marseilles for England v Tunisia. Result: drunken hooliganism. Alcohol was not available in Lens for England v Colombia. Result: relatively trouble-free time had by all. The logical conclusion drawn by the French authorities is to allow the sale of booze from 8.30am in St Etienne, scene of England's match with Argentina tomorrow. It is far too late for the French to do anything about the unspeakable shambles of ticket allocation in this World Cup. But to carry out this experiment to investigate the links between alcohol and violence using real English fans in a real French town would be funny if we did not fear serious mayhem.

Peace in Ulster may be on course but the champagne is still on ice

THE TROUBLE with the assembly election result is the same as last month's referendum on the Good Friday agreement: it was historic without being definitive. Perhaps that's the way it will always be, since this is a process and a long one at that. We never do get to the end of history, above all of Irish history.

In any event, the election was another of those steps forward, another of those increments that mark real progress but which never quite set the champagne corks popping in Belfast. Northern Ireland has very little culture of celebration, puritanically considering it unseemly and superstitiously believing it to be tempting fate.

The main thing, probably, is that the peace process remains on course and has come a long distance since the Good Friday agreement. It chalked up 71 per cent support in the referendum and it has now delivered an assembly in which more than three-quarters of its members approve of the agreement, either enthusiastically or tentatively.

Concern centres on the state of play within Unionism, which may be in the process of tearing itself apart. All the other elements are solidly, and indeed fervently, in favour of the new deal offered by the Good Friday accord: Irish nationalism north and south, London, Washington and the rest of the world all regard it as Northern Ireland's political salvation and the best hope for the future.

But the agreement rests on several mutually dependent props and its success depends on all of them taking the strain. Unionism is not solid;

if anything it is in a state of barely suppressed trauma, split down the middle. Half the Unionists are opposed to the deal either in whole or in part and have now twice voted against it, first in the referendum and again in last week's election.

The pro-agreement Unionists tend to accept the accord reluctantly rather than embrace it wholeheartedly, voting for it was an effort requiring many of their basic instincts to be suppressed. Many Unionist voters, and the politicians they have just elected, view it as closer to a last resort than to a golden opportunity.

David Trimble was applauded for last week's speech in which, critics said, he showed for the first time some sense of vision about Northern Ireland's future and how its people might live together as neighbours. But he said it only once; such a bold new message needs repetition and emphasis in order to sink in and it has yet to do so.

The assembly will face many crises, the first of which may be when First Minister Trimble is required to accept Messrs Adams and McGuinness as members of his new ruling executive. There will be Paisleyite pyrotechnics but there will also be much heartsearching and possibly rebellion, within Ulster Unionist ranks.

Much will depend on the character, fortitude and political skills of Mr Trimble. Although he has been around in politics a long time he is relatively inexperienced at senior levels, having been an MP for only eight years and party leader for just three.

Now he faces the Rev Ian Paisley, with all his decades of guile and cunning and the negative but highly effective skills that have helped dispatch more than one of Mr Trimble's predecessors to premature political retirement. By the time Mr Trimble was aged 27, Mr Paisley had founded his own party and his own church, been elected to Stormont and Westminster and been to jail a couple of times for his beliefs.

DAVID MCKITTRICK
Trimble said the other day that he had thought of taking beta-blockers to help himself cope with the strain

You can call him a dinosaur, say that he is 72 years old and point out that he has never managed to become number one in Unionism, but the fact is that he speaks for a solid one-third of Ulster Protestants. You can say he exaggerates their underlying fears but the fact is that those fears are real enough and many Unionists agree with him that the best tack is obstinate resistance rather than mutual accommodation.

We may now see the reappearance of the recurring themes of Paisley's three decades in politics, which is the formation of tactical alliances with dissident elements from the Ulster Unionist party. The conditions look right, for Mr Trimble has lost the allegiance of six of his 10 MPs.

One of these, his heir-apparent Jeffrey Donaldson, broke ranks on Good Friday. He started out maintaining that his opposition was based on his objections to the agreement and not to the party leadership. This high-minded stand, however, degenerated on Friday into televised slanging matches with Trimble supporters.

The gloves having come off, we may now see the emergence of a new anti-Trimble Unionist coalition doing battle not only in the assembly itself but at Westminster and indeed throughout the structure of the Unionist party. That battle may also be fought on the streets, in what could be a difficult Orange marching season.

How well equipped is Mr Trimble to cope with all this? Sometimes he wins the battles within the Unionist family, sometimes not. To lose one MP may be regarded as a misfortune; to lose half-a-dozen might be deemed carelessness. He has, however, done well in his assembly team. It was first thought that many of his backbenchers might be anti-agreement but he has successfully ensured that nearly all of them are on his side.

Somehow, Mr Trimble managed simultaneously to win and lose this election. As winner of the largest number of seats he will become First Minister in the assembly but a delve into the statistics shows that it was the

lowest-ever vote for his party, which for the first time ever was overtaken by a nationalist grouping, and Ian Paisley's party was only three per cent short of the Trimble total.

Mr Trimble has thus delivered enough seats to make the assembly workable but too few to instil confidence that the new arrangements are definitely going to last. He himself admits with slightly endearing frankness to feeling the pressure, telling the Belfast Telegraph the other day that he had thought of taking beta-blockers to help himself cope with the strain of it all.

In the old days, nationalists might have taken some pleasure in his difficulties, reckoning that Unionism's extremity could be nationalism's opportunity. But in the emerging new order of things, the fortunes of all pro-agreement elements - even Sinn Féin - are to a greater or lesser extent bound up with the fortunes of the Unionist leader.

Even beginning to think in these terms is an important sign of the developing new civil society struggling to come into existence alongside the old tribal patterns. In the meantime there is still plenty of tribalism and ill-feeling out there, still plenty of people hoping to exploit the assembly and the marches to produce rancour rather than reconciliation.

This helps explain the lack of celebration and the prevailing sense that, though violence has fallen sharply and progress is being made, it would be rash to open that champagne just yet. Once again a milestone has been passed and once again it was momentous but not conclusive.

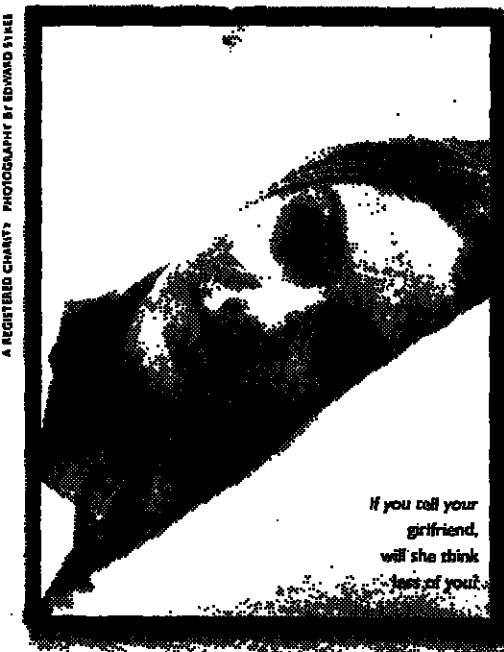
QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I have spent time with the Dalai Lama. I believe him to be an honest man and I believe if he had a conversation with President Jiang, they would like each other very much."
President Bill Clinton

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"If we resist our passions, it is more because of their weakness than because of our strength."
François La Rochefoucauld, French author

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The Samaritans

Belfast Telegraph
Within Unionism, the election results show there is a substantial section which still says "No" to the agreement. The fact that such opposition persists should steel the determination of David Trimble, John Hume, John Alderdice and their parties to work as closely together as possible in order to ensure the success of the assembly. It is vital the new executive is not founded on confrontation but a desire to seek accommodation and compromise where possible.

Boston Globe
When the new Northern Ireland Assembly holds its inaugural meeting on Wednesday the fights will begin immediately. There will be rows over where the assembly should sit permanently, over whether the selection of Cabinet ministers should be held now or put off until the fall. But in a place where disputes are traditionally settled by violence, the prospect of people attacking each other armed only with their words and their mandates is considered remarkable progress.

MONITOR

THE NEWS OF THE WORLD
Reactions to the result of the Irish Assembly vote



Irish News
When the assembly meets this week to decide who will be first minister and who will be deputy first minister, it should vote for job sharing between Mr Hume and Mr Trimble. This would be a fair reflection

of the poll, and it would underline the commitment both have made to politics based on consensus.

Daily Record
Thousands of ordinary people in Ulster have put their hope

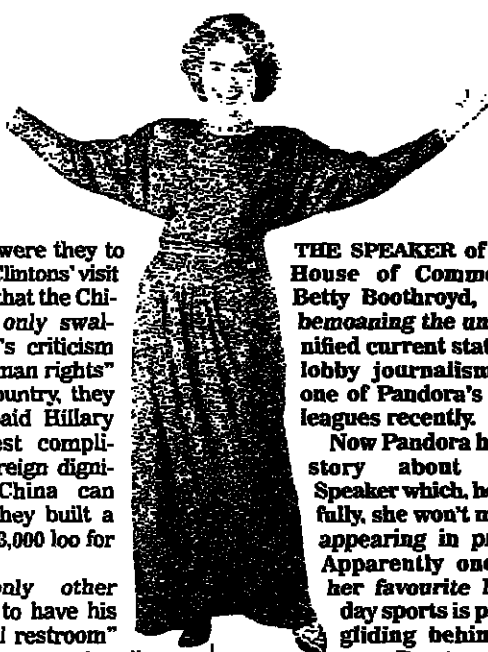
and faith in Mr Trimble and Mr Hume. The pair, of course, are not natural allies but their partnership is symbolic of what is happening as the people learn that what unites them is more important than what divides them.

Irish Independent
Mr Trimble holds the key to the success of the agreement. He must retain control of his divided party; and he must establish control of the assembly and executive. It would be a disastrous error, even if it were possible, to elect any-

body else as first minister. That simply could not work.

Philadelphia Enquirer
Maybe Northern Ireland has finally achieved the lasting peace all have dreamed of. But cross your fingers, and don't hold your breath. When the assembly meets to elect Mr Trimble its likely leader, there may be just a few peaceful days before Northern Ireland is plunged into crisis again. Next Sunday, an Orange Order march is scheduled to pass down a Catholic street outside Portadown.

PANDORA



SO KEEN were they to make the Clintons visit a success that the Chinese not only swallowed Bill's criticism about "human rights" in their country, they actually paid Hillary the highest compliment a foreign dignitary in China can receive. They built a custom \$23,000 loo for her.

The only other American to have his own "regal restroom" with a Western-style toilet and air-conditioning was Richard Nixon, who opened up American-Chinese relations back in the Seventies.

However, according to a reporter from the *Chicago Tribune*, the President "won't be getting his own toilet". No report to date on whether Hillary allowed him to share her facility.

THE SPEAKER of the House of Commons, Betty Boothroyd, was bemoaning the undignified current state of lobby journalism to one of Pandora's colleagues recently.

Now Pandora has a story about the Speaker which, hopefully, she won't mind appearing in print. Apparently one of her favourite holiday sports is paragliding behind a speedboat. No

hints about where she likes to indulge in this adventurous pastime. It's not a picture of our dear Speaker that Pandora would wish to appear on the front of any undignified newspaper.

THE SUCCESS of David Trimble's Ulster Unionist Party in Thursday's elections may be good news for the province's future, but the results make the future influence of the Conservative Party in Northern Ireland look rather doubtful. In the past, the unbridled link between the Tories and the Unionists seemed almost unbreakable. Now Trimble and his loyal supporters are furious at the Tories for buttressing UUP dissidents on questions such as the release of prisoners and the decommissioning of weapons.

With a lightning-fit William Hague expected back on active duty today, his first task ought to be to pour some calming oil on these troubled waters. Perhaps he could even massage a bit into Lord Cranborne, the Tories' most zealous Unionist, whom Mo Mowlam fears is keen to create post-election havoc in the Lords.

THE QUEEN is hosting a garden party for National Health Service workers later this week at Buckingham Palace.

The guests were chosen after a nationwide lottery among NHS staff who wished to attend. Minister Frank Dobson and his "on-message" lieutenants breathed a deep sigh of relief when the final list of guests turned out to include 200 nurses, roughly 400 doctors and less than five NHS bureaucrats. Pandora has learned that a special "informal" dress code will be in effect.

But won't Prince Philip, always a stickler for tradition, wish the nurses to emulate Her Majesty's armed forces at these events and arrive in full uniform?

MOHAMMED SARWAR, embattled Labour MP for Govan, signed a letter to *The Guardian* last week that called for a referendum in Kosovo to halt the "ethnic cleansing" he decries there but he has still not commented on another case of alleged "ethnic cleansing" much closer to home.

During the election campaign, his close political ally, Hanif Rajah, was accused of telling Peter Paton, the Independent Labour candidate in Govan, that he must leave an election meeting held at the city's central mosque.

"You're not a Pakistani, get out of this hall," Rajah was reported to have said. According to another observer, Mohammed Jamil: "The attitude of Mr Rajah was absolutely unacceptable."

FOLLOWING THEIR treatment of Kate Moss during this year's Cannes Film Festival, the Hotel du Cap received Pandora's vote of no confidence.

Now a reader has just returned from the Cote d'Azur with good news about another rival Cannes establishment, the Carlton Intercontinental.

"I took your advice and avoided the Cap, which is now sickeningly trendy with the Hollywood set. I'm pleased to say the Carlton was glorious, providing every conceivable luxury."

"Not only did the concierge desk find me a wonderful Italian bistro but they arranged for me to have a swim after lunch at the usually snooty Colombe d'Or in St Paul de Venise."

"All this and I won £400 playing roulette in the hotel's top floor casino."

So that's it then: doff the Cap and join Kate and Pandora in the Carlton next year.

An unhealthy obsession with health

WILLIAM HAGUE's enemies are exulting: he is sick, which means that he is a wimp, which means that he should not lead the Conservative Party. "It looks as if we've got a Gaitskill on our hands," muttered one.

The comparison with the gifted but physically frail Labour leader who contracted a mysterious viral infection and died in 1963, a year before the General Election, is maliciously excessive after the Tory leader's week off with sinusitis. But politics is an atavistic business and a fearful one. Its modernity is skin deep. The slightest sign of mortality among leaders causes outbreaks of sympathetic nervousness among their colleagues.

The solicitude shown to political invalids is no compensation for the seeping of authority.

"They treat me like a piece of ancient porcelain," complained Gaitskill when his first symptoms started to show.

Anthony Eden's nervous exhaustion was concealed from the public, even though the increasingly desperate letters to Churchill betray his desire to stop fighting. "I have



ANNE MCELVOY
The fuss over William Hague's illness recalls Communism's insistence on feats of longevity

heavy news about my health... they [the doctors] say firmly that I am endangering my life by going on."

Poor Mr Hague must feel even more wretched than is usual after a painful operation. Having inherited a weakened party, he knows that he cannot afford to display weakness himself. As Susan Sontag observed, there is a "kingdom of the sick", at odds with the culture of vital ap-

pearances on which politics depends. In purely political terms, the arrival of Mr Hague's mother at her son's bedside to enable him to return to work was thoroughly understandable. But it does not help a man of whom John Redwood reputedly remarked, on his first encounter: "I've just met a very old baby."

Politicians are tribal leaders and as such are supposed to reflect the collective well-being of their cause. Mao-Tse Tung understood this when he swam the Yangtze river in old age after a period of isolation to prove that his strength was undiminished. Ronald Reagan's political instinct for self-preservation was so strong that he insisted in attempting to walk away unaided after being shot close to the heart.

The West is producing a cult of young, vital leaders - Blair, Clinton, Gerhard Schröder - who are conspicuously active.

Mr Blair's adept head-ups with Kevin Keegan contrasted with John Major's sedentary appreciation of cricket. Mr Clinton relishes the thought of another elderly Republican challenger. Herr Schröder is often photographed cycling - a feat

that would be unthinkable for the ponderous Chancellor Kohl.

The end of Communism has seen the passing of the gerontocracies of Eastern Europe and of their own peculiar rules of engagement. General Secretaries were tested not on whether they were *compos mentis* Brezhnev's doctors warned the Politburo long before his death that he was senile - but on their longevity. The dynamic ruthlessness of modern capitalism would consider this a poor test of efficiency. But, in regimes that were both vain and insecure, the very ability to carry on at all was significant.

Two years before his violent death, I watched (with rather a lot of coffee breaks) the late Nicolae Ceausescu deliver one of his three-hour speeches of pseudo-scientific gobbledegook and asked an irreverent Romanian how this charade would be received. "If he'd spoken for an hour it would have meant he was dying. Two hours, and he's succumbing to his internal enemies. Three hours means he's in control."

Boris Yeltsin is the last representative of this school of stubborn

survival. The wonder - after a triple bypass and a drink problem - is not that he governs well, but that he governs at all. The longer he resists the rumours of his imminent demise, the less likely it seems that he will succumb, and the stronger his internal position.

One former adviser to Mr Yeltsin has grown so tired of answering the question, "What will happen when he dies?" that he now answers, "Yeltsin won't die."

Physical illness cannot be disguised by spin doctors. Mental illness can, which should worry us a lot more. Roy Porter's fascinating radio series *Case Notes* provides a sobering account of how far the protectors of the powerful will go to conceal the human weakness of those who govern us.

In the case of Ronald Reagan, Porter says, there were ample signs of the first stages of the onset of Alzheimer's while he was still in power, noticeably so during the Iran-Contra hearings. But his spectacular incoherence and muddled repetitions were ascribed to evasiveness. This condition is entirely normal among politicians.

How can we preserve cultural biodiversity?



TREVOR PHILLIPS
Lose any one of these communities, and something disappears from all our lives

THIS COLUMN has, so far, been a Viagra-free zone. However, the news that an elderly New York multimillionaire has announced that he will donate his own money to encourage the elderly of that city to take the wonder drug, and presumably take advantage of its effects, tickles my fancy. Of all the philanthropic gestures of which one can think, this one seems to be the most genuinely selfless. Unless the gentleman concerned, who I believe is Jewish, has been studying the latest figures for the Jewish population in Britain, and is preparing to launch a campaign to keep the Jewish community up to the mark, as it were.

According to an authoritative survey this week, the number of British Jews has dipped below the 300,000 mark for the first time this century, down to just 285,000, as a result of assimilation (or "marrying out"), emigration to the US and Israel, and just plain drift from the synagogue. It is not entirely clear how the numbers are estimated - how much is based on membership of a synagogue, how much is based on census numbers and so forth, but there is no doubt that the Jewish community in Britain thinks itself to be in numerical decline.

This, by the way, is not necessarily a mark of falling morale; one spokeswoman, with admirablechutzpah, observed that we should focus on quality rather than quantity, a fair observation given the astonishing success and self-confidence of this community. It is regarded by no less an authority than Bernie Grant MP as a valuable role model for other immigrant groups.

I don't intend here to get into the issue over whether or not a non-practising Jew ceases to be Jewish. The arguments seem to defeat the rabbis; there is no reason why an outsider should be able to shed new

light. But what is certain is that there comes a point in any community's life when its numbers are falling so rapidly that it can no longer be a self-sustaining, distinct entity.

Two questions arise. First, should we care, and if so, what should we do about it? You don't have to be Einstein to work out that my own answer to the first question is yes.

The struggle to maintain the tribe is one of the most ancient in humankind. But there are moments in history when that struggle becomes critical. Entire peoples disappear without trace: who knows, for example, where the Etruscans went?

Today, the descendants of the Parsees, the Zoroastrian fire-worshippers driven out of Persia by the rise of Islam, are said to be fewer than 75,000 world-wide. It is an unusually talented and well resourced disappearing tribe; many of India's great industrial and commercial families are Parsees and their most famous living son, the conductor of the Three Tenors, Zubin Mehta, has become, in his own way, as much of a global figure as the late Firdous

Bulsara, better known as Freddie Mercury. But within the next century it is almost certain that this will all be history.

Even larger, more distinctive groups, such as my own, the black Britons, are not as yet there. Our numbers are more or less stable; but our character is changing, principally as a result of intermarriage. By the middle of the next century, the so-called "black" person will probably be a rare specimen in this country; most of our grandchildren will be of mixed race.

This has happened before. By the late 19th century, the entire black population of London - some 25,000 strong in Georgian times - had effectively disappeared. Today, the idea of calling yourself a Huguenot would seem ridiculous, though thousands fled Catholic persecution to settle here in Tudor times.

You could dismiss all this as simply a consequence of the march of time. Indeed, casting an eye to France now, it is arguable that the less historical baggage we carry, the less room there is for conflict. And as I have argued many times here, none of us wants to be trapped by our ancestral traditions. However, in our hearts of hearts, none of us wants our communities to disappear either. We may not want to be part of the ethnic or religious action, but we want to be sure that there is some action going on.

Even if we don't care about our own specific traditions, there is much to be said in general for human cultural diversity. Just as in the rainforest, there is an ecology in human affairs which we neglect at our peril. Our culture is built of many historical fragments, in many cases represented by the persistence of small communities; lose any one of those communities, and something disappears from all our lives.



A bar mitzvah boy celebrates his manhood, in a ceremony supervised by a cantor

Anybody can appreciate Jewish mother jokes, or love Jamaican reggae, or thrill to Irish dance; but without the core of a community to sustain those traditions and constantly renew them, these elements of culture become stale, old-hat and ersatz. And without this rich array of authentic cultures, what is to stand in the way of the remorseless march of Disneyfication and McDonaldisation?

That is why, of course, it is in all our interests to sustain cultural diversity. But how?

No number of official receptions, Arts Council grants and essays on multiculturalism can match the influence of two key institutions: the temple (or church or synagogue) and the family. And these are the principal sites of the problem.

Family continuity is, for example, at the mercy of intermarriage. But the old ties are loosening; children insist on their rights and it is becoming almost impossible to legislate for the purity of your grandchildren.

So perhaps the temple needs to

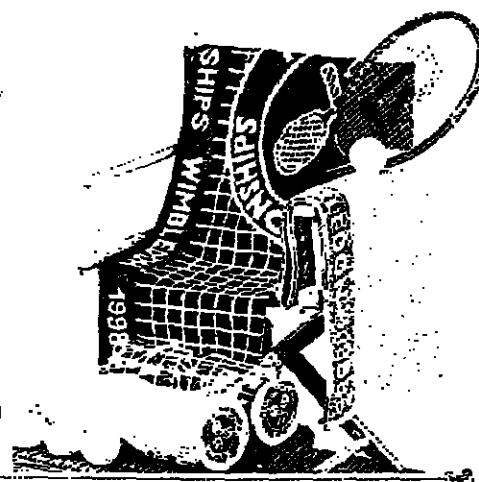
be the focus of our interest. But the temple has its rules which are themselves shrinking the communities. For those who marry into communities where the mark of belonging is passed on either through the father or the mother, the chances are that their children's interest in that community will be arrested pretty early; it is impossible, for example, to become a Parsee unless you are born to a Parsee father. Even today there are still many hours spent arguing about whether someone of mixed race can be regarded as "black" or not.

For many centuries, such defensive rules were vital to maintain the survival of the tribe. Today we need to look at these rules again, and reflect on the possibility that if we have an ethnic identity it may have to be shared with and kept alive by people who were not born into it, in order for it to survive. The disappearing tribes have to find a way to embrace those who come wanting to share their history and their traditions. The choice is straightforward: open the temples, or die in them.

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The Sun's 20 bad arguments on Emu

The Sun launched its broadside against even thinking about joining the euro with lurid stories of a £34bn cost to go in, of dumping the pound as "a road to disaster", and by listing 20 perils of the single currency. Some of those 20 points are populist versions of serious arguments - nothing wrong with that - but some are just plain nonsense.

And it's not just the Sun which mixes up good arguments against the euro with poor ones. Serious commentators - who should know better - present, as clear arguments against, assertions that are questionable, or misleading, or wrong, or which simply miss the point.

There are three arguments in particular, presented by opponents as clear and strong arguments against joining EMU, which on closer inspection are not. First, exchange rate flexibility. Giving up exchange rate flexibility - opponents argue - means giving up the ability to offset unsustainable cost increases with currency devaluation. And they warn that without that flexibility an impossible burden of adjustment will be thrown onto Europe's

inflexible labour markets.

But while that's a fine piece of economic theory - the sort of thing you learn in A-level economics - look at how exchange rates actually move over three- or five-year periods, and you'll find that they are as likely massively to overshoot the required adjustment, or to move in exactly the opposite direction to that required, as they are to move in the fashion the theory predicts, the fashion required to offset cost competitiveness problems.

Second, "asymmetric exogenous shocks". Some opponents claim these provide a compelling case against. But what they don't admit is that the possibility of exogenous shocks can argue either for or against the euro, depending on what sort of shock we're talking about.

The possibility of shocks such as German reunification is - absolutely right - an argument against a single currency. So if we think there's a danger of that sort of shock recurring, that should make us cautious of the Euro. But the fact that Britain is an oil exporter - and more exposed to oil price movements than other



PODIUM

ADAI TURNER
The Director General of the CBI addresses its South Eastern Annual Dinner on arguments against the euro

European countries, which is presented by opponents as an argument against, - can be a powerful argument for the euro. And you only have to think back to 1979-81 to understand why.

If oil prices soar while we are an independent currency, the pound could soar as well - and non-oil exporters could be driven out of business - non-oil exporters who can't magically re-emerge when the pound

falls again. If oil prices soar when we are in a Euro, the rest of the economy can continue to enjoy the stability it requires to flourish. The fact that we're an oil exporter can be an argument for going into the euro, not against.

And as for huge levels of preparation costs, nobody would rationally opt-out, with all the risks that entails, in order to avoid the changeover costs of new tills and ATM machines, which in many cases will represent simply normal replacement expenditure or the bringing forward of investments in next generation technology.

So we need to strip away from the anti-case both high-sounding economic theory unconnected to reality and scaremongering about transition costs. Which still leaves a good case against joining the euro and the opponents should concentrate on making that good case, not cluttering it up with phoney arguments. We need to assess carefully the risks highlighted by those arguments. And we then need to balance those risks against the benefits of going in.

The benefits of a single market of transparent prices and

reduced investment risks include giving a spur to more intense competition and faster industrial change and faster productivity growth across Europe. The benefits of a single European capital market could provide the sort of wide and liquid access to capital provided by NASDAQ in the US, and which will also spur competition and industrial change through more transparent performance comparison. There are the benefits of freeing our economy from some of the damaging volatility which exchange rate flexibility can bring. And there is the danger that we may be less attractive to some inward investors if we stay out.

My own judgement is that the balance of arguments is more likely to be in favour than against, and that has also been the conclusion so far of the majority, but by no means all, of CBI members. But equally it is vital that confused or mistaken or unproven arguments against are clearly challenged, whether they be populist arguments from the Sun, or initially plausible assertions of economic theory which on closer inspection are without merit.

What goes clip-clop bang-bang?



JOHN WALSH

It seems that the Amish brethren are just as liable as the rest of us to succumb to human greed

That's shocking news about the Amish and the cocaine bust. Visitors to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, or anyone who's seen Peter Weir's film *Witness*, in which Harrison Ford protects a small boy who has witnessed a murder by sheltering him among the Pennsylvania Dutch community, will remember their strict Mennonite ways, their puritanical work ethic, their forswearing of every gross, immoral manifestation of 20th-century modernity, from zip fasteners to Birds Instant Custard, their way of referring to the rest of the population of America as "the English", and their phenomenal ZZ Top beards. Truly, they are a lesson in basic human decency, an Old Testament band of brothers, a moral army besieged by the heathen majority with their Pop Tarts and trailer parks.

So it was with, frankly, a whoop of joy that we learned last week that this whisky throner, after all, not just human, but embroiled up to their dungaree oxters in criminal activity. Two Amish adherents, confusingly both called Abner Stoltz, were named by the Feds as partners with a nasty gang of motorbiking drug fiends dealing umpteen kilograms of cocaine to, among others, Amish youth clubs. It seems the brethren, for all their Shaker lifestyle, are just as liable as the rest of us to succumb to human greed and forget the precepts by which their community lives.

The rest of us, on the other hand, do not go around smuggling class-A drugs and heading for the nick. The worst that most of us are capable of is having too much Châteaufort du Pape and winding up in front of the television, yelling "Eff off!" at the Colombian captain with the corkscrew fright-wig. The Amish baddies seem to have moved from ascetic saintliness to lawless self-indulgence without any intervening state of common-or-garden sinfulness.

It can only get worse, I'm afraid. Picture the scene a year from now. The Pennsylvania night. A huge harvest moon. The sound of prayer from the wooden chapel, in humble celebration of the abundant harvest.



It may be 20th-century America, but the Plain People still travel the highways by 18th-century transport

Two community elders discussing a knotty point of church rubric in their guttural dialect. Then a sound is heard: clip-clop, clip-clop, clip-clop, clip-clop, clip-clop, clip-clop, bang-bang, clip-clop, clip-clop, clip-clop.

Oh no. The first Amish drive-by shooting.

I RUSHED to an early preview of that new British film everyone's hanging on about, *Velvet Goldmine*. It is, after all, set in my salad days of the early Seventies and the whole glam-rock circus, a time when it was, you know, really important to young intellectuals whether the title of David Bowie's LP *Aladdin* Some actually meant "a lad insane" and referred to Bowie's unhappy brother, and whether his song *The Jean Genie* was a reference to Jean Genet (although whether the great French novelist and jailbird did really live on his back and love chimney-stacks remained inscrutable).

It was the time when I sang in an Oxford rock band (only a year and a few colleges away from Tony Blair's Ugly Rumours, phew, what a near-shake with the Hand of His-

tory) and everyone pretended to be bisexual, and what I didn't know about black-and-gold-lamé jumpsuits wasn't worth asking.

Anyway, *Goldmine* is written and directed by Todd Haynes, a Californian whose debut movie, *Superstar: The Karen Carpenter Story*, departed from bio-pic orthodoxy, and indeed, good taste, by telling the sad tale of the anorexic warbler using Barbie dolls as actors. The new movie briefly uses a brace of Ken dolls to illustrate the changing relationship between the two main characters, Brian Slade, played by a young ephemer called Jonathan Rhys Meyers, and Curt Wild, played by Ewan McGregor. Slade is a shape-changing cosmic weirdo, not a million miles from David Bowie. Wild is a composite of rock'n'roll wild men, starting out sons shirt as Iggy Pop, mutating into Lou Reed and ending up as Kurt Cobain.

The film is a structural mess with a lot of tacky production design, but has some tremendous scenes. In the best one, the two nascent superstars demonstrate their different approaches.

McGregor goes impressively ballistic on stage and flashes his pork microphone at the audience, while

Rhys Meyers is booted off stage for being too fey, and for singing while wearing a long silk evening gown (shades of Bowie in a dress on the original sleeve of *The Man Who Sold the World*). Sitting there watching the audience throwing bottles and shouting "Get off, ya poof!", I thought with amazement how intolerant rock audiences had become in the early Seventies, so soon after Woodstock. And how easy it was to épater les bourgeois in those days by the simple deployment of blue-glitter mascara. And how it couldn't possibly happen now.

But how wrong can you be? At the preview I learned that McGregor and Rhys Meyers had so upset the technical staff at Bray Studios with their in-character pretence of many affection, that the electricians started calling them names, abusing them verbally and threatening a go-slow. The producer, Christine Vachon, could be found stamping round the set saying she would never make a film in this country again. And when some of the offending crew were removed, McGregor and Rhys Meyers made it their amusing habit to frequent the technicians' on-set bar in full glam regalia

and start embracing in full view of the apoplectic sparks that remained. Goodness, the fuss a little affectation of gaiety can cause.

AS WILLIAM Hague returns to work this week, I'll let others snipe about his sinus blockage (a medical condition only slightly more glamorous than rectal wart excision) and his infected tubes.

What intrigues me is the news that he has been an exponent of transcendental meditation since he was 16, but has now given it up in favour of judo. Blimey. Trying to imagine Mr Hague, with his Mekon head and his bulldog chin, intoning a mantra, hands held at the level of his ears, thumbs and middle fingers mystically conjoined. Trying to imagine Mr Hague - whose normal speaking voice suggests the chairman of a Northern golf club informing an audience that he wasn't born yesterday - saying "Om" over and over and wondering, like Chuang Tse, the third-century BC philosopher if he is a man dreaming he's a butterfly or vice versa. Trying to picture Mr Hague advancing towards you in a belted white pajama suit, hands outstretched, his

face a rictus of concentration. No, I'm sorry. No can do. The human imagination can only stretch so far.

Tory advisers are said to be furious that Mr Hague's shift from internal peace to external aggression has been made public, and are now debating whether his "going back" to TM would count as a kind of policy U-turn. Myself, I'd like to see him go further and take up Aikido, complete with full Samurai uniform and helmet.

There is some reason why the Tory leader is keen on therapies and exercise from the mystic East, and I think I know what it is. Where have we seen that combination of spiritual and physical endeavour before? Why, in *Kung Fu*, the TV show Mr Hague would surely have watched in his early teens, about a placid, caring, Christ-like drifter in the Wild West whose Zen training at a Buddhist monastery has left him capable of flattening a dozen gun-toting villains in a whirl of fists and bare feet, should the occasion arise.

So that's what mild-mannered William "Glasshopper" Hague has been secretly dreaming of at the dispatch box for the past 12 months.

RIGHT OF REPLY

LORD MACLAURIN



The England and Wales Cricket Board's chairman argues that much has been achieved in his 18-month tenure

THOSE INVOLVED in recording the fortunes of English cricket sometimes expose a lack of knowledge about the broader picture and neatly sidestep the successes of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB). Derek Pringle, for example, says that we "have achieved little other than to increase the number of people wearing ECB blazers".

Some 18 months ago, when the ECB was set up, we produced a National Development Plan, which set out a strategy for the development of the game from the playground to the Test arena. Our goal was to create a world-beating international team and develop a cricketing nation that would be respected throughout the world. This is a grand ambition and our work has only just begun.

But much progress has already been made. There are more than a million primary school children - nearly half of whom are girls - playing the game. 50,000 Kwik cricket sets have been distributed to schools around the country, and 947 new primary school club links have been forged.

We are in the process of making the game more competitive. A new premier league for clubs has been launched in Birmingham, next year will see the launch of a two-division national league, and the eight leading sides in the Britannic Assurance Championship will compete for the "Super Cup".

We have done what we promised to do. However, we still need to invest heavily in coaching, teaching and facilities. That's why we welcome the Government's decision to take cricket off the "A" list of sports events.

This will enable us to negotiate a competitive price for our products and then inject more funds into cricket to help this wonderful game prosper.

Carry-on up the Balkan backwaters

MONDAY BOOK

THE ACCURSED MOUNTAINS:
JOURNALS IN ALBANIA
BY ROBERT CARVER
JOHN MURRAY, £16.99

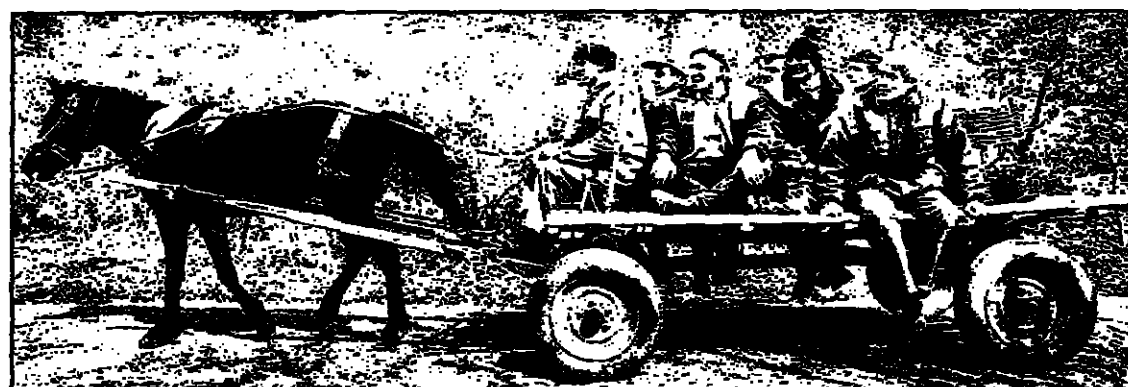
ALBANIA is still terra incognita. The Albanians were always a race apart, cut off from their Greek and Slav neighbours both by the high mountains ringing much of the country and by the Islamic faith to which most of them - loosely - adhere. Isolated even inside the Communist Bloc by Enver Hoxha, their peculiar, violent dictator, who enjoyed shooting his political enemies himself, they have continued to pursue a separate, disastrous path since the fall of Communism.

Enter Robert Carver, an Englishman brought up in Cyprus, whom we encounter in the summer of 1996 trudging his way along paths full of broken glass, past roofless factories and uprooted orchards, in this post-Communist wilderness. For this is a land where the fall of Hoxha's Orwellian dictatorship had resulted in the extraordinary spectacle of a nation descending on the carcass of the state - stealing, breaking, tearing up and unweaving everything within reach. Before, they had worked all the time and lived regimented lives under the feared gaze of the secret police, the Sigurimi. Now, the arrival of "freedom" was widely interpreted as freedom to smash and grab what they could, and do no work at all.

Gabriel, Carver's guide, is that familiar East European figure, the frustrated intellectual. From the vantage point of a front seat in the town café, he spends his days grinning at the mouth peasants strolling past, railing against the folly and venality of officialdom, and bemoaning the lack

of "culture" among his compatriots. Naturally, he never lifts a finger to do anything about it. Visiting a school that has been ransacked, like all the other official buildings, he complains bitterly about the devastation, but is nonplussed when Carver suggests that the teachers and pupils might themselves start cleaning the lavatories, painting the walls, replacing the windows and pulling up the weeds outside. "Gabriel looked away from me, embarrassed. 'This is the government's job. It is a scandal...'"

Carver is the first British account that I know of life in this surreal landscape, possibly since Edith Durham wrote *High Albania* just before the First World War. But Carver is no Durham. She could spot a rogue but loved the Albanians, too, and it is precisely that love, albeit tempered by wit



Albanian peasants travelling home after a day working in the fields

David Rose

and by judgement, that lends her book its enchantment.

Carver, on the other hand, falls for the English travel writer's familiar, annoying vice - summing up entire nations in witty, wounding little put-downs. This, for example, is the history of Albania: "Albania was a professional client state. It had been bankrupt since its inception in 1913 and had just gone on borrowing money and scrounging goods and aid ever since. None of this was ever

paid back; instead, new patrons of a political hue were sought. Albanians would wave any flag you liked as long as they were paid for it." Get the picture?

Carver cannot resist caricatures and the grotesque. But what might be entertaining as an after-dinner speech ("My Adventures among Rascals in the Balkans") is hard to sustain through 337 pages. Half-way through I was groaning at the parade of gold-toothed dolts, leering whores, cackling

baba-yagas, sinister, smiling murderers and mad professors wended its way on and on. He clearly thought that he had got the better of them.

Many of his encounters end with our English hero stalking majestically from the scene of conflict after delivering some fantastic verbal thrust that has left his Albanian foe whimpering. I think we are being invited to chortle gleefully at the comedy of such a people as this pretending to be on the same level as us. Instead, I felt embarrassed.

There is too much Greek propaganda here, too, most of it incomprehensible to an English audience and wasted on us. What is the point of constantly referring to the neighbouring state of Macedonia as "Slavo-Macedonia"? This nonsensical phrase, culled out of the Greek newspapers, is designed to belittle the Macedonians and reassure a purely Greek audience that that republic has no right to the northern Greek province of the same name. At the end of the book we are gravely informed that Carver was "lucky to get out alive". I think he would certainly be lucky to get out alive, if he were ever to go back there.

MARCUS TANNER

MONDAY POEM

ON VISITING THE GRAVE OF MY STILLBORN LITTLE GIRL
SUNDAY JULY 4TH 1836 BY ELIZABETH GASKELL

I made a vow within my soul, O Child,
When thou wert laid beside my weary heart,
With marks of death on every tender part
That, if in time a living infant smiled,
Winning my ear with gentle sounds of love
In sunshine of such joy, I still would save
A green rest for thy memory, O Dove!

And oft times visit thy small, nameless grave.
Thee have I not forgot, my firstborn, though
Whose eyes ne'er opened to my wistful gaze,
Whose sufferings stamped with pain thy little brow;
I think of thee in these far happier days,
And thou, my child, from thy bright heaven see
How well I keep my faithful vow to thee.

Taken from "Generations: poems between Fathers, Mothers, Daughters and Sons",
edited by Melanie Hart and James Loader (Penguin, £14.99)



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THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OPENS MINDS, OPENS DOORS

Jean Mercure and Jandeline

IN THE filmy world of show business, human relationships are often as insubstantial as the sets of transformation scenes. Yet – despite extramarital infatuations, usually tolerated – there have been some enduring marriages, on-stage and off. To well-known theatrical couples like Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne, Madeleine Renault and Jean-Louis Barrault we can add Jean Mercure and Aline Jeannerot ("Jandeline") as an admirable example of fidelity, with a love that lasted over 60 years in a notoriously fickle emotional environment.

Jean Mercure was educated at the Lycée Rollin in Paris, and started working as a journalist, but was soon drawn to the theatre, where he began his acting career in 1934 under Gaston Baty and other innovative directors. His first notable appearance was in Baty's revival of *The Threepenny Opera* in 1937. His wife Jandeline was a rare talent, both as an actress and as a diseuse whose range of poetry extended from Villon to Prévert. She was often to appear with Jean in plays, many of which he directed himself.

Mercure began making a name for himself as a playwright, chiefly with fine adaptations from novels and film scripts, and one of his first successes in this line was *Boudou sauvé des eaux* ("The Tramp Boudou Rescued from the Water") derived from Jean Renoir's 1933 film starring Michel Simon. It was performed in 1939 under the menace of the Second World War, and had to wait until 1985 to be rediscovered, unfortunately in a Hollywood treatment starring Bette Midler and Little Richard, under the title *Down and Out in Beverly Hills*.

After war broke out, Mercure founded, with Louis Duceux and André Roussin, the Comédie de Lyon, where he appeared in Beaumarchais' *Le Barbier de Séville*, in Molière's *Les Fâcheres de Scapin*, and in his own adaptation of Prosper Mérimée's tale *Le Carrosse du Saint-Sacrement* (1941), which became another Jean Renoir subject in 1953, as *Le Carrosse d'Or*, starring Anna Magnani and Duncan Lamont.

Jean Mercure was one of the first volunteers to join Les Forces Françaises Libres in London, and he took part in the liberation of Paris alongside de Gaulle. He resumed his

acting career with a 1945 adaptation of Charles Morgan's novel *The Flashing Stream* (1945), which also marked Jandeline's first triumph under his direction. In 1949 he produced his dramatisation of the famous Resistance work *Le Silence de la Mer* by Vercors (Jean Brunner). Other works in which Jandeline enjoyed success were Maurice Druon's *Mégarée* and Julien Green's *Sud* (1953).

In 1953 Mercure was the first recipient of the Prix Dominique for another production starring Jandeline, Pirandello's *Il piacere dell'onestà* translated as *La Volupté de l'honneur*. Mercure in his turn was lauded by the critics for his performance in the leading role in *Ouragan sur le Caire* ("The Cairo Mule") in 1957.

He received his first commission from the Comédie Française to stage Montherlant's *Le Cardinal d'Espagne* (1960). Other productions that demonstrate his wide

range and theatrical virtuosity were Graham Greene's *The Living Room* (1954), Robert Anderson's *Tex and Sympathy* (1956) and his adaptation of Saint-Exupéry's classic *Vol de Nuit* ("Night Flight") in 1960. He and Jandeline often took their productions on tour all over the world, and in 1966 I saw them in Mercure's staging of Molière's *Don Juan* in Tokyo.

They rarely appeared on the small screen, but Mercure made some minor appearances in films, the first of which was *La Rue sans Joie* ("The Joyless Street"), André Hugon's 1937 remake of Pabst's masterpiece starring Garbo, *Die freudlose Gasse*. In 1952 he was in a British Disney picture, *The Sword and the Rose*, and in 1954 he appeared with Gérard Philipe and Danielle Darrieux in Claude Autant-Lara's *Le Rouge et le Noir*. In 1960, along with almost every other star in the business, he made a fleeting appearance in Abel Gance's bewildering *Austerlitz*.

Taking that final curtain with their customary grace and elegance, they tranquilly chose voluntary death in each other's arms

It was in 1968 that the lives of Mercure and Jandeline took an entirely new direction. He was invited to confront the gigantic task of bringing back to life the venerable bulk of the Sarah Bernhardt Theatre at the Châtelet. Mercure's basic idea was to transform this vast theatrical mausoleum at the heart of Paris into an elegant Parisian rendezvous in the populist tradition of Jean Vilar and his Théâtre National Populaire (TNP). The old Italianate auditorium was brightened and modernised by René Allaud to hold a thousand seats. But the real revolutionary change came when Mercure proposed hour-long performances from 6.30 in the evening, capturing crowds in the middle of the rush hour with modestly priced variety shows of the highest quality, which would encourage people who seldom or never went to the theatre to form the theatre-going habit and to stay on

own partnership in Durrenmatt's black comedy *The Visit*. Patrice Chéreau mounted his epoch-making *Peer Gynt* in 1981. One of Mercure's final performances was the title role in Jules Romains' *Volpome* (1985).

After Mercure's retirement from the Théâtre de la Ville in 1985, he continued to interest himself in its development. There are frequent performances by avant-garde opera companies and contemporary ballet in particular has found there a spiritual home, with sold-out seasons by William Forsyth, Carolyn Carlson, Alwin Nikolais, Jean-Claude Gallot and Maguy Marin. Last autumn I attended a remarkable festival of Japanese theatre, a performance of love-suicide traditional *bunraku* puppet melodramas, playing to packed houses of Westerners but also Japanese, some of whom had come all the way from Japan to attend the series of plays, though in a theatre of that size some of the finer detail of the puppet-handling was inevitably lost unless one was in the front rows.

Mercure and Jandeline made their own farewell bows to the public in 1986, at the Théâtre Fontaine, in a two-hander, *Gin Gome*, a play about old age, a subject Mercure always detested. "Growing old infuriates me," he said in an interview. "It's a punishment I find scandalously unjust. I am not afraid of death. When I have to confront the Great Reaper, I'd like to recall Bernanos' words – 'And now – just the two of us!'"

Jean Mercure and Jandeline were well-known, popular first-night figures to the very end, when, as they had so often done, taking that final curtain with their customary grace and elegance, they tranquilly chose voluntary death in each other's arms, saying a last farewell not only to their public and their friends, but also to each other, in a leaving-taking that was not a parting.

James Kirkup

Pierre Libermann (Jean Mercure), actor, theatre producer and director: born Paris 27 March 1908; married 1936 Aline Jeannerot (one daughter); died Paris 24 June 1998.

Aline Jeannerot (Jandeline), actress, diseuse: born Paris 1911; married 1936 Pierre Libermann (one daughter); died Paris 24 June 1998.



Alfred Kazin

ALFRED KAZIN seems a figure from another cultural world, which is no discredit to him but rather our loss. The development of English Studies in the post-war period, with the formalism of the New Criticism and then the rise of literary theory, has driven a wedge between writers and academics. Kazin, however, though he produced mainly literary criticism, regarded himself simply as a writer.

"After the war," he once wrote, "I was honoured by many professorships here and abroad" – he was never one to hide his light under a bushel – "but I am not a 'doctor' of anything, and never wanted to be an academic luminary."

He may not have been an academic, but he was certainly humorous enough, and devoted a long career to shedding light on American literature. He sometimes described himself as a literary journalist, though that term no longer has the weight he gave it. Certainly he had a journalistic capacity to produce vivid thumb-nail sketches of the numerous literary men and women he got to know during the course of his life, people like F.O. Matthiessen "wired to go off like a bomb", Randall Jarrell "all shining in his box of poetry", Robert Frost, "this ponderous, bulking, swollen man – swollen as much with fame as with age", and Edmund Wilson, "Why did I always feel that I had to shout in order to reach him?"

But this was also part and parcel of his other great interest, which was

writing autobiography. When he was a child in Brownsville, a depressed suburb of Brooklyn, Kazin began a lifelong habit of putting street scenes down in his notebook – "my commonplace book, journal, personal prayer book, the root of my almost 60 years' toil at the writer's trade". What he was, more than anything, was a man of letters, and the slight quaintness of that phrase is by no means inappropriate, despite his concern with defining modern America. As he said of writing his first and most famous book, *On Native Grounds* (1942), "The new literature (of the modernist generation) was being created by the old century."

Kazin was the child of Jewish immigrants, each of whom had made it to America alone. His mother, Gita, came from Russian Poland, and his father, Charles, from Minsk, in White Russia. His mother never learnt to speak English, while his father, a housepainter by trade and a socialist by conviction, would have difficulty all his life in conducting a sustained conversation in that language, though, an aloof and rather lonely man, he often didn't try (in a characteristically telling phrase, Kazin described him as someone "who needed to feel himself near an exit").

Alfred himself was, he claimed, a child of Jewish history; but like so many others of his generation – Bel-low, for example, whom he much admired – he found that to be a tantalising legacy. He begins his first autobiographical volume, *A Walker in the City* (1951), with an account



Kazin: a man of letters

Inge Morath / Magnum

of his rage to escape the impoverished and claustrophobic Jewish community in which he had been brought up, but immediately goes on to evoke it in rich and nostalgic detail, his prose rhythms echoing his beloved F. Scott Fitzgerald's evocation of Nick Carraway's lost childhood in *The Great Gatsby*.

As in Fitzgerald the paradox is that the lost world which is being recalled was already lost even while it was (apparently) being originally experienced. Describing his confirmation lessons at 13, Kazin explains: "In the old country the

Melamed might possibly have encouraged me to understand the text," but here "it was as if some contract in secret cipher had been drawn up... which that Americaner idiot, as the Melamed called me, could sign with an x." But, just as his Jewish past was inaccessible historically, so his American present seemed out of reach geographically from those Brownsville tenements; it was beyond. "Beyond" was anything old and American.

In 1934, after just a year's study at the City College of New York, Kazin began reviewing for the *New*

Republic. It was a precocious appointment (he was 20) which he achieved through the agency of John Chamberlain, a socialist who was writing a daily review for the *New York Times*. The youthful Kazin called on Chamberlain, ostensibly to challenge his tendency to write from an ideologically inflexible point of view, but also hoping to impress, an effective juxtaposition of high principle and low strategy in the Ben Franklin style.

Kazin himself remained a socialist for years, but never a doctrinaire one, and never a Marxist. He had an innate distrust of abstract thought and praised Malcolm Cowley for his praise of Malraux's preoccupation with Communism itself as with recessive mirror images. Kazin is defining his own position by means of his praise in turn.

Similarly in his more literary judgements: coming across Walt Whitman for the first time in his adolescence Kazin immediately realised "I had found another writer I could instinctively trust". That "instinctively" is important: "First the image, then the sense". Nevertheless, wary of extremism, he was also suspicious of commentators who went too far in personalising their reading, and was repelled by Mary McCarthy's ability to home in upon the human weakness she could sense at the heart of books.

In 1942, in the same week that he became literary editor of the *New Republic*, he published *On Native*

Grounds. The resonant title alone gives a sense of the book's ambition, with its echo of William Carlos Williams's *In the American Grain*, or D.H. Lawrence's *Studies in Classic American Literature*. Kazin's charting of the rise of America realism from the late 19th century to the 1930s doesn't have the scope of those seminal works, but along with F.O. Matthiessen's *The American Renaissance* it belongs with a second generation of studies that attempt, by exploring part of the American tradition, to define the characteristic qualities and preoccupations of the whole.

Of course early fame brings its own problems: later in life Kazin regretted that this success eclipsed his subsequent contributions. Certainly he produced some fine works, including *Bright Book of Life* (1973), a book about the development of the novel for Hemingway to Mailer, and the wider-ranging *American Procession* (1984), which goes all the way from 1830 to 1929.

As recently as last October he published *God and the American Writer*. Just as importantly his volumes of autobiography, *A Walker in the City*, *Starting out in the Thirties* (1965), *New York Jew* (1978) and *A Lifetime Burning in Every Moment* (1996), provide a fascinating account of his life, his environment, and the literary scene which he inhabited.

During the post-war period he was associated with many varied and distinguished universities, including his Alma Mater, the City Uni-

versity of New York. Having come to Britain in the last days of the war on educational duties, he made many subsequent lecture tours in Europe. As he grew older he repudiated socialism as such but remained a "intellectual radical", and became deeply demoralised by the way the American middle classes tended to regard the Vietnam war "as an interruption between drinks and dinner on the six o'clock news". Nevertheless he remained true throughout to his original position: "the 'primary' virtues in literature may come back only when men are bound up in the invisible moral life of humanity". He admired D.H. Lawrence's remark that the novelist is superior to the saint and the poet because he explores the whole range of human concerns. "To be a novelist" Alfred Kazin once exclaimed, "To take on anything and everything!" Perhaps one can glimpse a novelist *manqué* here, but the range and humanity Kazin celebrates also characterised his own best work as a critic and autobiographer.

Richard Francis

Alfred Kazin, writer and literary critic: born New York 5 June 1915; Distinguished Professor of English, State University of New York 1953-73, City University, New York 1973-78, 1979-85; married 1947 Coroline Bookman (one son; marriage dissolved), 1952 Ann Birstein (one daughter; marriage dissolved), 1953 Judith Dunford; died New York 4 June 1998.

Alfred Rubens

EVEN AS a boy, Alfred Rubens was an avid collector. In the 1920s, he started to collect prints and drawings of Jewish interest and eventually built up a collection of over 100,000 items. When, in 1932, the Jewish Museum was founded in London by Rubens's friend Wilfred S. Samuel, he invited Rubens to join the museum's committee as its expert on prints and drawings. Rubens outlived all other members of that original committee.

The museum started with a major purchase of antique ceremonial objects at Christie's and built up a fine collection, illustrating both the ceremonies of Judaism and the social history of the Jewish community in Britain. Exhibits included silver,

textiles and furniture from London's former 18th-century synagogues.

In 1935, Rubens published his first book, *Anglo-Jewish Portraits*, at his own expense. This was followed by two very different books, both called *A Jewish Iconography*, the first published in 1954 and the second in 1981, and by his *A History of Jewish Costume* (1967). He wrote six papers for the Jewish Historical Society of England and was elected its President in 1956 and 1957. The quality of his historical research was recognised by his election as a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society in 1957 and of the Society of Antiquaries the same year.

In 1968, after the death of Wilfred Samuel, Rubens accepted the chair-

manship of the Jewish Museum, and managed it for 25 years, retiring in 1963. He did many things to improve the museum which, when he became chairman, was located in one large room at Woburn House, Tavistock Square. He gave it showcases, miniatures, paintings and prints. He commissioned the writing and publication of its illustrated catalogue and of its guidebook. He engaged its first professionally trained part-time Curator, Carole Mendelson. And when, in 1980, the Trustees of the Jewish Memorial Council withdrew the museum's funding, he paid the museum's annual deficit out of his own resources for some five years.

Alfred Rubens was born in 1903

and brought up in Highbury, north London. His father was an estate agent and small-scale property developer in the City and Alfred, his youngest son, was educated at the City of London School. In 1918, his father died unexpectedly. One older brother was in the Army in France and another was about to be called up, so Alfred, then aged 14, had to leave school without matriculating, to help his mother run the family business. He managed to pass the matriculation exam by private study and followed this up by qualifying as a Chartered Surveyor. He read widely, but, to his regret, never had the opportunity of going to university.

After the First World War he joined his older brother, Harry, as a

partner in the firm of H. I. and A. Rubens, Chartered Surveyors. They floated the Property and Reversionary Investment Corporation Ltd to develop commercial property, in which, in the course of time, they both made their fortunes.

Alfred Rubens's final service to the Jewish Museum was to persuade Raymond Burton, the former chairman of the Burton Group, that the museum's educational work deserved his interest and support. Burton's patronage enabled the museum to relocate its superb collection in 1994 to new premises in Albert Street, in Camden Town, where its superb collection has been officially designated as of national importance. Instead of one

room in an office block, this small independent museum now has its own listed building with separate galleries for history, temporary exhibitions and ceremonial art, the last being named the Alfred Rubens Gallery. Rubens fitted out a purpose-designed print room at the museum and deposited his great collection of prints and drawings there.

Alfred Rubens was an exceptional man. He was a great enthusiast for his hobbies, with a fund of original ideas but, unlike many enthusiasts, was calm and unflappable. He was a man of taste and an scholar, with a gift for friendship. He died, full of years and honour, just short of his 95th birthday.

Edgar Samuel



Alfred Rubens, collector and historian: born London 30 July 1903; Chairman, Jewish Museum 1968-83; married 1931 Frances de Pinna Weil (one daughter); died London 1 June 1998.

Henry G. Saperstein

THE PRODUCER and distributor Henry G. Saperstein helped bring the classic science-fiction thriller *Godzilla* to English-speaking audiences over 40 years ago when he formed an alliance with the Toho Company of Japan, and he served as consultant on the remake issued this year. A high-powered executive in the world of film and television, Saperstein owned or presided over several production companies from the mid-Fifties on. As the owner of UFA Productions, he was the producer and distributor of such animated television shows as *Mister Magoo*, *Dick Tracy* and *Gerald McBoing Boing*, plus the cartoon feature *Guy Furr-ee*. He was also the executive producer on both the Woody Allen comedy *What's Up, Tiger Lily* and John Boorman's powerful anti-war film *Hell in the Pacific*.

Born in Chicago in 1918, Saperstein was educated at the University of Chicago, and in 1943 bought the first of several theatres he was to own in that city. He moved to Hollywood in 1955 as the president of Television Personalities Inc and the following year began a profitable association with Toho Films when he successfully marketed in the United States an artfully adapted version of a monster movie they had produced, *Godzilla* (1954), directed by Inoshiro Honda, had been Japan's answer to the previous year's American hit *The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms*, and its tale of a prehistoric reptile awakened by an underwater nuclear explosion and wreaking havoc with its radioactive breath and monstrous proportions had been a huge success. The American version, vigorously publicised, had linking footage directed by Terry Morze featuring the actor Raymond Burr, was retitled *Godzilla* and scored a great hit, spawning several sequels as well as the current remake.

Saperstein followed the same formula on further Japanese monster films including *Honda's Kaiju dai Sonso* (1965), given new footage starring Nick Adams and released as *Monster Zero*, and *Honda's Frankenshutan no Kaiju-Sanda tai Gailah* (1966), released as *War of the Gargantuans* with new material featuring Russ Tamblyn as a monster expert.

A different approach was taken with *Senkichi Taniguchi's Kagi No Kag* (1964), a Japanese imitation of a James Bond movie, which Saperstein turned over to Woody Allen, allowing the comic

to have a cinematic field day (as Allen puts it in the film's foreword). By editing and redubbing, Allen converted the film into a Bond parody, with the hero tracking down Shepherd Wong, the villain, who is after a vital egg salad recipe ("He who makes the best egg salad can control the world"). Entitled *What's Up, Tiger Lily* (1966), and with songs by the Lovin' Spoonful to bolster its sagging moments, the modest production (it cost Saperstein around \$66,000), made a big profit.

In 1968 Saperstein was executive producer on the two-character war film *Hell in the Pacific*, shot on islands in Micronesia and starring Toshiro Mifune and Lee Marvin as opposing soldiers in the Second World War who form an alliance when separated from their units on a Pacific atoll.

Saperstein entered television as a producer of sports shows, including *All-Star Golf* (1958-62) and *Championship Bowling* (1958-60), and bought the prestigious animation studio UFA (United Productions of America) in order to produce cartoons for television. UFA had been formed in 1943 by a group of young animators who had broken with Walt Disney during a 1941 cartoonists' strike. Initially producing industrial and government shorts, UFA pioneered a lean, modern graphic style with flat stylised characters totally unlike Disney's.

Their first theatrical cartoon, *Robin Hood* (1948) was Oscar-nominated, and the following year they created their first original character for the screen, the near-sighted *Mister Magoo* (given voice by the actor Jim Backus) in *Ragtime Bear*. A popular success with critics and public, it was followed by an even greater hit, *Gerald McBoing Boing* (1951), which had *Time* magazine hailing the film's fresh style: "Everything about the film is simple but highly stylised: bold line drawings, understated motion, striking colour and airy design in the spirit of modern poster art."

With their flat style - the sense of depth coming from perspective - and sophisticated scripts which often appealed more to adults than to children, the UFA cartoons revolutionised the industry and were the start of a lineage that flows today in *The Simpsons*. Just as the latter show frequently takes its inspiration from the movies, *Gerald McBoing Boing* included a staircase scene directly inspired by a sequence in Carol Reed's *The Fallen Idol*.

With UFA's success, though, came



Poster for the 1955 film *Godzilla*, marketed in the US by Saperstein

inner conflicts and by the end of the Fifties only one founding member, Shigenori Bostow, remained. According to the historian Leonard Malin, when Bostow sold the studio to Saperstein in 1959, UFA "discarded its reputation for quality in one fell swoop". A little unfair, perhaps, considering the speed with which shows for television had to be made - Saperstein produced 130 *Magoo* cartoons between 1960 and 1962 plus the same number of *Dick Tracy* episodes at the same time, and children loved them. The studio also maintained its flair for innovation, evident in such original series as *The Famous Adventures of Mister Magoo*, in which the character starred in serious adaptations of classic stories from *Don Quixote* to *Moby Dick*. Abe Levitow, who directed that series, also made the studio's feature-length cartoon *Guy Furr-ee* (1962), which, despite the voices of

Judy Garland, Robert Goulet and Hermione Gingold, and songs by Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg, failed to satisfy adults or children. "There seems to be an effort," said *Newsweek*, "to reach a hitherto undiscovered audience - the few four-year-olds of research taste."

Last year Saperstein served as executive producer of a live action Disney film, *Mister Magoo*, but the film for which he will be best remembered is the animated television feature *Mister Magoo's Christmas Carol*, which has become a perennial family favourite in American homes.

Tom Vallance

Henry G. Saperstein, film producer and distributor: born Chicago 2 June 1918; married (four children); died Beverly Hills, California 24 June 1998.

BIOLOGICAL NOTES

SUSAN GREENFIELD

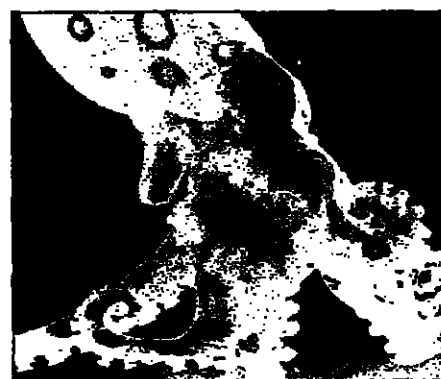
Not a flash in the dark but a dimmer switch

WE TEND to take consciousness for granted. But when, mentally, do all the lights actually go on? As an adult one has to admit that, for some of the time at least, one is oneself conscious, whereas it is hard to attribute sentience to a newly fertilised egg. What Rubicon then did we all cross as our brains grew? And when? There are certainly a range of candidate indices as events unfold in pregnancy, each occurring at a certain stage of foetal development, but often at very different times, and in each case of arguable significance.

One of the earliest markers might be simple movement, which is detectable from eight weeks onwards; on the other hand, the nascent nervous system might be merely displaying reflexes, akin to the headless chicken. The appearance of sensory detectors and sensory responses from nine weeks, through possibly of some relevance, have in some cases none the less been mimicked on a definitively unconscious computer.

Instead of these brain inputs and outputs, the status of that secretive grey box itself might be the deciding factor. Take for example the outer layer of the brain, the "cortex", named after the Latin for bark since it wraps around the brain like its arboreal namesake wraps around a tree. In mammals, at least, the cortex has been identified by some as a requisite factor for consciousness. However it is difficult to decide precisely which aspect of cortical development would be critical. Cortical cells can be present in their correct position in the brain from six weeks, become insulated with the fatty covering myelin in certain selective regions from about 20 weeks, develop local connections from 25 weeks, and generate an electrical wave pattern from about 30 weeks. The development of the cortex thus spans a very wide time frame; moreover all the changes are gradual; they start to take place at certain times, but are by no means complete until well after birth.

Another feature of the brain that has also been regarded as central to the conscious state are the connections from a central relay station for the sensors deep inside the head, the thalamus, and the outer reaches of the brain. There is no evidence as yet, however, to prove that the integrity of these connections might be



The octopus: a molluscan inner life?

anything other than a necessary, rather than sufficient, criterion for the creation of the rich inner world that we each claim to enjoy and that no one else can hack into. Another problem with attributing this kind of monopoly on importance to the actual circuitry of the mammalian brain is well exemplified in the case of the common octopus. This invertebrate, which has featured in many experiments on learning and memory, may well be indulging in some molluscan inner life, and with a brain configured differently from that of the human. The deciding proof, therefore, for the presence of consciousness, however crude, basic or raw, is not necessarily the appearance of the relatively detailed physical features of a developing foetal mammalian brain.

Rather than singling out a one-off criterion by which to judge the consciousness of octopi or Einstein, perhaps consciousness should be considered as not all or none but rather as a continuum: it is not a flash in the dark but rather a dimmer switch, growing in depth as the brain grows. If different degrees of consciousness are indeed accommodated in brains of different species and at different stages of development, then we will have to look for alternative clues within the brain if we still wish to pinpoint the birth of consciousness - the most spectacular and frustrating of riddles.

Professor Susan Greenfield is the author of *The Human Brain: a guided tour* (Phoenix, £6.99)

GAZETTE

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

DEATHS

EUSTACE: Rowland Barrington, died peacefully in London on Friday 26 June. Funeral at Our Lady & St Francis, West Gristed, West Sussex, on Monday 7 July at 11am. No flowers please.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Duke of Edinburgh. Patron and Trustee, attends receptions at the Palace of Holyroodhouse, for young people who have achieved the Gold Standard in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award; as Patron of the Outward Bound Trust, attends a lunch at Scottish Widows' Offices, Edinburgh; and, as Patron and Trustee, attends a dinner for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Charter for Business at Edinburgh Castle. The Duke of York opens the Forestry Centre at the Liverpool University; visits the Athenaeum, Liverpool, on the occasion of its bicentenary year; visits the new galleries of the Tate Gallery, Liverpool; as Patron, visits the exhibition of projects for the Young Electronic Designer Awards at the Museum of Science and Industry, Manchester; and, as Patron, presents the Annual Young Electronic Designer Awards at the Granada Studio, Manchester. The Princess Royal, Honorary Fellow, Green College, attends a Garden Party followed by an Advisory Council Meeting at Green College, Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; No 7 Company Coldstream Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Scots Guards.

BIRTHDAYS

Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands, 87; Mr Ian Bannen, actor, 70; The Hon Charlotte Bingham, writer, 56; Lord Cornwallis, former chairman, Town and Country Building Society, 77; Baroness Farrington of Ribblesdale, a Baroness in Waiting, 58; Sir Frank Gibb, president, Taylor Woodrow Construction, 71; Lady Greengross, Director-General, Age Concern England, 63; Mr Peter Harborne, ambassador to Slovakia, 53; Mr George Howarth MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Home Office, 49; Sir Rex Hunt, former Governor, Falkland Islands, 72; Lord Hutton, a Lord of Appeal in Ordinary, 87; Sir Miles Irving, Professor of Surgery, Manchester University, 63; Professor Martin Jones, archaeologist, 47; Viscount Kemsley, former deputy chairman, Kemsley Newspapers, 89; Mr Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, President of Sri Lanka, 53; Mr Michael McIntyre, yachtsman, 42; Ms Linda Perham MP, 51; Mr Nigel Richardson, Headmaster, The Perse School, Cambridge, 50; Vice-Admiral Sir John Roxburgh, 79; Mr Geoffrey Woolley, journalist, 83.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Conte Giacomo Leopardi, poet and classicist, 1798; Abbate Pietro Alfieri, professor of singing and writer, 1801; Wilhelm Dettmer, opera singer, 1808; George Washington Goethals, builder of the Panama Canal, 1858; William James Mayo, surgeon and co-founder of the Mayo Clinic, 1861; James Harvey Robinson, historian, 1863; George Ellery Hale, astronomer, 1868; Robert Schuman, statesman, 1866; Antoine-Marie Roger de Saint-Exupéry, aviator and writer, 1900; Nelson Eddy,

actor and singer, 1901; Frank Loesser, composer and lyricist, 1910. Deaths: Anton Raphael Mengs, painter, 1779; Valentine Green, mezzotint engraver, 1813; Thomas Addison, physician and discoverer of "Addison's Disease", 1860; Elizabeth Barrett Browning, poet, 1861; Joseph Aloysius Hansom, architect and inventor of the hansom cab, 1882; Adolph Joseph Thomas Monticelli, painter, 1886; Thomas Henry Huxley, biologist, 1895; Karl Brugmann, philologist, 1919; Lady Randolph Churchill (Jennie Jerome), mother of Sir Winston Churchill, 1921; Sir Henry Stuart Jones, scholar and lexicographer, 1939; Paul Klee, modernist painter, 1940; Ignaz Jan Paderewski, pianist and statesman, 1941; Jayne Mansfield (Vera Jayne Palmer), actress, killed in a car crash 1967; Primo Carnera, heavyweight boxer, 1967; Moise Tshombe, Katanga politician, 1969; Maj-Gen Sir Francis Wilfred de Guingand, soldier, 1979; Pierre-Alexandre Balmain, fashion designer, 1982; General Sir Richard Nelson Gale, soldier, 1982; Lana Turner (Julia Jean Milred Frances Turner), actress, 1995. On this day: Shakespeare's Globe Theatre was burned down, 1613; the Austrians and French fought an indecisive battle at Arona, Italy, 1734; an Act of Parliament established the first passenger railway, the Swansea to Oystermouth, 1804; the *Daily Telegraph* was first published, 1855; the Great Comet was seen over France and England, 1861; the Press Association news agency was founded, London, 1868; the Act legalising trades unions was passed, 1871; Tahiti was annexed by France, 1880; steam-powered elevated trains began running in Chicago, 1892; the foundation stone of Westminster Cathedral was laid by Cardinal Vaughan,

1895; Sir Roger Casement, Irish revolutionary, was condemned to death for treason, 1916; US forces landed in New Guinea, and raided the Solomon Islands, 1943; US troops were withdrawn from Korea, 1948; US planes bombed Hanoi, North Vietnam, 1966. Today is the Feast Day of St Cassius of Narni, St Paul the Apostle, St Peter the Apostle and Saints Salome and Judith.

LECTURES

National Gallery: Anne Higgins, "Pictures of Innocence", 1pm.

CHURCH APPOINTMENTS

Canon Peter Harrison, Team Rector, Drypool and Area Dean of East Hull (York): to be Archdeacon of East Riding. The Rev Tom Barker, Chaplain to the Bishop of Chester and Diocesan Communications Officer (Chester): to be Vice-Chancellor of St Mary and St Nicholas (Lincoln). The Rev Paddy Benson, Vicar, Rostan (Chester): has been appointed also Rural Dean of Wirral (same diocese). Canon Michael Benton, Priest-in-Charge, Knagsdale (Worcester): has been appointed Chaplain to the Queen. Canon Troy Chesterman, Rector, Canon of Derby Cathedral and Diocesan Clergy in Service Training Adviser (Derby): to be Chaplain to the Queen. The Rev Jan Dash, Curate, South Croxson (Northampton): to be Priest-in-Charge, Bristol St Matthew, and also Chaplain HMP Crookham Road (Gloucester). Canon Christine Farrington, Vicar, Cambridge St Mark, and Chaplain, Welles College, Cambridge (City): to be Chaplain to the Queen. The Rev David Fells, Vicar, Grange St Andrew, and Priest-in-Charge, Ramscroft Holy Trinity (Chester): has been appointed also Rural Dean of Frodsham (same diocese). Canon Richard Giles, Vicar, Raddorfield St Thomas, and Parish Development Officer (Gloucester): to be also Canon Theological (same diocese). The Rev Cheryl Hillman, Curate, Lincoln St Paul and St Martin with St Peter (Lincoln): to be Priest-in-Charge, St Mary's (Lincoln). Canon Michael Isley, Priest-in-Charge, St George's (Chester): to be Priest-in-Charge, Rostan (Chester), and also Diocesan Rural Officer (Gloucester).

The Rev Penelope Jones, Priest-in-Charge, Stanhope with Frosterley, and Eastgate with Hockliffe, and Adviser for Women's Ministry (Durham): to be Honorary Canon of Durham Cathedral (same diocese). The Rev Joan Kerr, NSM, Rochester St John the Baptist (Sheffield): to be also Chaplain, Medway Secure Training Centre (same diocese). The Rev Bob King, previously Priest-in-Charge, Harford Holy Trinity (Hereford): has been appointed Team Vicar, West Hereford (same diocese). Canon Michael Lunt, Vicar, Cotham with Eastfield, and Rural Dean of Scarborough (York): to be NSM Priest-in-Charge, York St Clement with St Mary Bishopscott Senior (same diocese). Canon David Lowe, Vicar, Leiston, and Honorary Canon of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich: to be Priest-in-Charge, Felstead St John the Baptist, and St Edmund (same diocese). The Rev Chris Nelson, Vicar, Keston St Oswald (Blackburn): to be also Honorary Canon of Blackburn with Darwen (same diocese). The Rev Robert North, formerly Priest-in-Charge, Hereford St Nicholas, and Diocesan Director of Ordinands (Hereford): has been appointed Team Rector, West Hereford, continuing as Diocesan Director of Ordinands (same diocese). Following pastoral reorganisation. The Rev Brian Perkins, NSM Curate, Wilson (Chester): to be Chaplain to the Bishop of Chester and Priest-in-Charge, Ashton Hayes (same diocese). The Rev Peter Pike, Priest-in-Charge, Barnacre with Calder Vale (Blackburn): to be Vicar, Biercliffe St James (same diocese). The Rev Richard Seed, Vicar, Boston Spa, and Priest-in-Charge, Clifton, and Rural Dean of New Almy (York): to be also Priest-in-Charge, Thorp Arch with Walton (same diocese). The Rev William Stuart-White, Vicar, Austrey and Warton (Birmingham): to be Rector, Camberley (Hampshire). The Rev Graham Sykes, previously Curate, Rostan, and Diocesan Coordinator for Evangelism (Hereford): has been appointed Team Vicar, West Hereford, continuing as Diocesan Coordinator for Evangelism (same diocese). The Rev Ian Williams, NSM, Dorley Glen (Lincoln): to be Rector, Ingoldby (same diocese).

APPOINTMENTS

Mr Paul Robert Barclay and Mr David Keith Ticehurst, to be circuit judges on the Western Circuit. Mr Brian Joseph Knight, to be a circuit judge on the South Eastern Circuit. Mr Peter Huw Llewellyn, to be a district judge on the Wales and Chester Circuit. Mrs Catherine Elizabeth O'Leary, to be a district judge on the Northern Circuit. Mr David John Aspin, to be a district judge on the Wales and Chester Circuit. Mr Simon Berry QC, to be an Ordinary Bench of Lincoln's Inn.

The following notes of judgments were prepared by the reporters of the *All England Law Reports*.

Attempts

R v Bristol Magistrates' Court ex p E; QBD (Div Ct) (Simon Brown LJ, Thomas J) 22 June 1998.

An offence of attempting to commit an act of criminal damage existed in law even where, had the act been completed, the offence would have been triable only summarily by virtue of s 22 and Sch 2 to the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 because the value of the damage was less than £5,000. It had not been an accident in drafting that had led to the inclusion of the offence of "attempting to commit" an offence under s 1 of the Criminal Damage Act 1971 in Sch 2 of the 1980 Act. Merely because the completed offence had to be proceeded with on a summary only basis, did not mean it was a summary offence. The completed offence was an indictable offence within the definition contained in the Interpretation Act 1978.

County Court practice

Black v Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council; CA (Stuart Smith, Swinton Thomas, Ward LJ) 23 June 1998. A judge, when deciding whether to order payment out under CCR Ord 11 r 1 where a plaintiff had asked for payment outside the limitation period, had to apply the principles found in the corresponding High Court provision, RSC Ord 22 r 5. Although the language was different the effect was the same, namely, that once there had been a substantial alteration in the circumstances, payment out should not be ordered. A change in the law which resulted in the defendants having to pay the Compensation Recovery Unit £15,000 more to dispose of the plaintiff's claim than they were prepared to pay out constituted such a substantial alteration in circumstances.

WHY HAVE we allowed obstetricians sole use of the word ectopic? Always followed by "pregnancy" it has acquired a highly specialised meaning, though its Greek roots offer wider opportunities.

From *be* (out of) and *topos* (place), anything in the wrong place could be described as *ectopic*.

CASE SUMMARIES

29 JUNE 1998

Interim payment
Sharp v Pereira & anr; CA (Lord Woolf MR, Millett, Pill LJ) 24 June 1998. A court had jurisdiction to make an interim order under RSC Ord 29 r 11(2) for damages against a defendant whose liability would be met by the Motor Insurers Bureau (MIB) in a case where the claim would be met out of the resources of the MIB rather than out of the resources of a private insurer, since the purpose of the rule was that a person who was an uninsured defendant would still be able to meet an order for an interim payment if the case was one where liability would ultimately be met by the MIB.

Sentence
R v Kent Youth Court, ex p K; QBD (Div Ct) (Simon Brown LJ, Thomas J) 23 June 1998. Where a youth court passed sentences in respect of offences committed by a juvenile, by virtue of s 1A of the Criminal Justice Act 1982 each sentence had to be of at least two months' detention. It was clear from the predecessor legislation that a sentence was passed for an offence and not a series of offences, the only difference between the old section and the inserted section being that the inserted section distinguished between offenders of different ages. It was not possible, therefore, for justices to sentence a youth charged with a number of offences to six months' detention in respect of one offence and sentences of one month each in respect of two other offences to run consecutively.

County Court practice
Black v Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council; CA (Stuart Smith, Swinton Thomas, Ward LJ) 23 June 1998. A judge, when deciding whether to order payment out under CCR Ord 11 r 1 where a plaintiff had asked for payment outside the limitation period, had to apply the principles found in the corresponding High Court provision, RSC Ord 22 r 5. Although the language was different the effect was the same, namely, that once there had been a substantial alteration in the circumstances, payment out should not be ordered. A change in the law which resulted in the defendants having to pay the Compensation Recovery Unit £15,000 more to dispose of the plaintiff's claim than they were prepared to pay out constituted such a substantial alteration in circumstances.

Divorce
White v White; CA (Butler-Sloss, Thorpe, Mantell LJ) 19 June 1998. Where the parties to a marriage had traded as equal partners, a wife was entitled in law to her share on dissolution according to the law of partnership, even where the partnership was only dissolved as part of the divorce proceedings, and the wife's share, once determined, was hers to deploy, to spend, or to invest as she thought fit.

Words
William Hartston
ectopia n; ectopic adj.
"Can you let me in? My keys are ectopic." Or: "I'm sorry I can't come to the phone at the moment, I'm in ectopia."
Unlike Thomas More's

applicant; Peter Gower (CPS) for the Crown.

John Crowley QC, Jonathan Howard (Liddell Zurbrugg) for the plaintiff; Timothy Lamb QC, Charles Cory-Wright (Edward Lewis) for the MIB.

Simon Goodman (Douglas & Partners, Bristol) for the applicant; Kerry Barker (CPS, Bristol) for the Crown.

Paul Coleridge QC, John Ker-Reid (Bevan Ashford, Tiverton) for the petitioner; Nicholas Mostyn QC (Clarke Willmot & Clarke, Tiverton) for the respondent.

John Lyons (Taylor Nichol) for the

Too much teen spirit

Teenagers drink too much. But how to curb them, in a society awash with alcohol? By Jerome Burne

There is no evidence that my 16-year-old son is keen on housework, so when he declared that he had spent an hour cleaning the bathroom I said I was impressed.

"I haven't been polishing the taps or anything like that," he explained. "I've been wiping Martin's vomit off the walls. It was disgusting. I'm not having him to a party again."

Ben had had the house to himself and some friends for the night and the bathroom had been one of the casualties. This rite of passage for both of us could be interpreted in several ways. A valuable learning experience for Ben, seeing the effects of binge drinking all too close up, possibly a warning to his younger brother Jack, and to us as irresponsible parents, letting children run wild.

The dilemmas around how best to handle children and drink have been brought into sharp focus by the report that teenage alcohol consumption has increased by 40 per cent in the last five years. The likes of Ben and Jack are apparently drinking three more units a week than their predecessors were in 1993, and a third of them drink at home without the parents knowing. What's needed, say the experts, is more education. But, as I discovered, this can be hard to come by.

I called the NUS, who declared that they were certainly on the case as far as student drinking was concerned. Why, only last year they had run a campaign that involved dishing out glasses and posters to all universities with the logo 2F3M4. This was to remind students that the sensible daily amount for females was two units and for males, three to four. Wasn't it true, I asked, that the best way to reduce consumption was to raise prices? And didn't the NUS run subsidised bars? "Er, yes," admitted a slightly flustered spokesperson. "But the prices are not so much lower that anyone would be encouraged to go bananas."

So was there any evidence that the posters and mugs were having any effect? "We don't keep any information like that," I was told. "We just act as a conduit. The people you need to talk to are Drinkline. They run a help

line and do all the research." But a call to Drinkline was no more enlightening. "I'm afraid we are about to close," said another harassed-sounding spokesperson. "Drinkline is out to tender."

So I turned to see what was being done in America, where concern and consumption rates are similar. For instance, a recent study by the Harvard School of Public Health showed that 70 per cent of students at some college campuses "binge drink" - defined as having five drinks in a row for males, and four for females. This compares with *The Lancet's* 1996 survey which found excessive and binge drinking among 50 per cent of students. Interestingly, among non-white UK students only 3 per cent drank heavily. A study by

finding that alcohol causes an increase in oestrogen levels in men and testosterone levels in females. Even in these politically correct times, becoming more of a girl if you are a boy, and vice versa, are generally viewed with alarm.

But research findings have an uncomfortable way of cutting both ways. In several American reports the following facts are cited as damning evidence against alcohol: "Adolescents who reported misusing alcohol were likely to engage in early sexual activity, multiple partners, and unprotected intercourse 6.1 to 23.0 times more than young people who did not misuse alcohol." Such behaviour is, of course, terribly irresponsible, but I can't help feeling the statistic may not have the deterrent effect it is supposed to.

British calls for more education seem to fall on deaf ears. There is provision for education on alcohol in the national curriculum, but experts admit that implementation is patchy. My informal research confirmed it. Ben commented: "We were told about drinking at school, but it was a long time ago and I can't remember what was said." Sulla, a 20-year-old at Nottingham University, remarked: "Sure we all get drunk. I here are cut-price drinks for students somewhere in town every night, but I've never seen any material about sensible drinking."

The budgets of those concerned about teenage drinking are minuscule compared with the vast coffers of the alcohol industry. How can a few posters with silly logos compete with glossy ads that pretend drinking vodka is like having an LSD trip, or news stories about footballing heroes getting out of it?

In the US, with more money - the Office of Alcohol and Other Substances has a \$60m grant - and a stronger puritan tradition, there is rather more direct action. SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) has got "young people at more than 16,000 schools fighting alcohol abuse and drink-driving." One of their posters reads: "If you are going to Drink and Drive, then be sure to kiss your mother goodbye." In a recent announcement OASAP (Office of Substance Abuse Prevention), which



'The Lancet' found excessive and binge drinking among 50 per cent of university students

Lisa Woollet

vets information packs that go out to schools, demanded: "... materials recommending a designated driver be rated unacceptable. They encourage heavy alcohol use by implying it is OK to drink to intoxication as long as you don't drive." Some universities now have limits on the amount of alcohol that can be brought on to campus, enforced with \$50 and \$100 fines. The claim is that this cuts the number of binge drinkers in half.

Some American campaigners say that a price hike is the simplest and most effective way to reduce heavy drinking. But it turns out not to be so simple. A study two years ago concluded: "the drinking practices of male college students are generally insensitive to the price of beer (but) under-age drinking and drinking by female students do respond signifi-

cantly to price." Interestingly, while males cut back on binge drinking when tough drink-driving laws are enforced, females do not.

Given that our society is awash with alcohol, we can hardly expect teenagers not to experiment, and the long-term effects are uncertain. Some campaigners claim that heavy drinking as a teenager predicts problems as an adult, while *The Lancet* is more circumspect: "It remains unclear whether university students' lifestyles are carried over into later life." There undoubtedly can be health problems, but who is most likely to be affected?

For what it's worth, my own view is that teenagers have to learn to negotiate their relationship with alcohol just as they do with the opposite sex, shopping and work. Most will make it OK, but a few will run into

problems. Whatever happens, though, by the time they really need it, they won't take much notice of your advice. The best you can do is keep a loving connection with them.

The Portman Group, an alcohol research institution funded by the industry, produced a booklet for parents last year that advised being relaxed with your children over alcohol, being honest about the pleasures and the risks and letting them try small amounts at home. Ben agreed that he was all in favour of parents telling kids about drink: "For instance, does chardonnay or cabernet sauvignon go with lobster, and what are the vintage years?"

How to tell if something's wrong If your child does have a problem with alcohol, he or she may not admit it. Here are some questions that, if an-

swered honestly, can reveal whether help is needed:

- Do you feel uncomfortable when alcohol isn't available?
- Do you ever miss school, work, or social activities because of alcohol?
- Do you spend much time hung over?
- Do you drink more than usual when you're under pressure?
- Do you binge drink?
- Do you ever feel guilty about drinking?
- Do you resent it when people talk about your drinking?
- Have you ever been unable to remember parts of the evening before?

Organisations to contact: The Portman Group (0171-499 1010); Alcohol Concern (0171-928 7377); Drinkline Youth National helpline (0345 320202 - while it remains open)

How can a few silly logos compete with ads that pretend drinking vodka is like an LSD trip?

the marvellously named American organisation MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) estimated that half of schoolchildren drink.

There's no shortage of research to suggest we should be alarmed by this torrent of booze disappearing down teenage throats. Take the physical effects. While processing alcohol - at the rate of one hour per drink for a 160-lb adult male - the liver can't do its normal job of releasing stored energy. So you get tired. Your liver is threatened because there is more iron in your blood, and you won't be building bone and muscle at the rate you should. What's more, drinking regularly means you will be extracting fewer vitamins from your meals, at a time when you're not only growing, but are probably eating badly anyway.

"Boring," retort the 16-year-olds clutching cans of lager outside a football ground, who rightly believe in their own immortality. What may make more of an impression is the

For God's sake, I'm only pregnant

You're going to have a baby. Great. But suddenly your colleagues treat you like an idiot. By India Knight

WHEN YOU get pregnant, one of the more unpleasant side-effects is the way people suddenly treat you as if you were a retard - and nowhere is this more obvious than at work. People who have been known to ask your opinion suddenly either grope you or scream at the mere idea of physical contact with you. Your compulsive miffin consumption is frowned upon and discussed behind your back by the (childless) female executives in the Eighties power suits.

Last week it emerged that the belief that pregnant women are bovine in every respect is endemic in British offices. In a paper to the British Psychological Society, Dr Helen Pattison, a psychologist at Birmingham University's medical school, said that, despite the majority of working women in Britain being in paid employment during their pregnancy, both employers and

colleagues tend to see them as "physically and mentally incapacitated".

We all know that pregnancy isn't an illness. Yet in my experience, announcing "I'm pregnant" to your colleagues has a curious effect. After the initial "how nice" and "well done", there is a shift in attitudes, which grows and alters in proportion to your foetus. No one ever says: "Ergh, how revolting." - it wouldn't be nice, but it would be honest.

Take morning sickness. Unless you suffer acutely and are permanently hurling on to your computer

screen, it is reasonably easy for the pregnant woman to take this in her stride. You wake up, you feel sick, you have a ginger biscuit, you feel better, you go to work. And yet, when pregnant with my first child, I worked in an office in which I was excused from the day's first meeting (10am). I explained that I suffered from mild nausea first thing in the morning (6am) but I never vomited. But as far as many of my colleagues were concerned, I might chuck up and soil their shoes at any given time.

What is also off-putting is that

weird combination of matronly concern - being offered comfier chairs, having people volunteer trips to the canteen for you until, in my case, they find out quite how frequent these need to be, and no-nonsense just-because-you're-pregnant-don't-think-you-can-go-soft-on-us lectures. The latter, in my experience, tend to come from women, which is sad, but there you go. It didn't help that, during both of my pregnancies, my immediate female bosses were the kind of women who had babies in their lunch break, hosed them

down and came back in time to shout at the slackers who took a two-hour lunch.

One of my erstwhile colleagues appeared to be fascinated by my pregnancy's progress. "Does it have toes yet?" he would ask, sweetly. "How big is its head?" Less adorably, after a few months of this, I began to notice that every answer of mine was met by the kind of smile you scramble for if you are trying not to retch. One night, he got very drunk and proposed a toast, in public, to the end of my sex life.

In her study, Dr Pattison singled out moral disapproval of pregnant

women by colleagues as an area of particular concern: "People who saw pregnant workers negatively also tended to disapprove of young mothers working," she found. "They considered them to be selfish women who were putting the safety of their children at risk." What, by earning money? It's a sweetly old-fashioned idea, but true none the less: within seconds of having announced your "condition", you can wave a wistful goodbye to the after work drink, for instance. I drank, in moderation, through both my pregnancies, and have lost count of the

number of alcoholic men with tragic, messy lives, who spent entire evenings berating me for this.

The reason co-workers get the creeps around pregnant women is, actually, perfectly obvious. Men don't like it because it proves you have ovaries, which confuses them. As a working woman, you can be one of three things: One Of The Lads; The Office Sexpot; or Bloody Ambitious. But lads don't have wombs; sexpots don't have kids; and ambitious women are only tolerable if they are de-sexed.

I think this also explains why I was treated so oddly by high-powered female colleagues: they must have been aware that carrying a child both humanises and sexualises one. When you've built your career, as they had, on sturdy foundations of ball-breaking, being forced to acknowledge an employee's fecundity might be disturbing.

Lord, forgive them

Continued from page one

most expensive education in the world, they can still come out equipped for nothing. There is a kind of skill in this, I think.

Still, after Bryanston, Martin went on to Balliol, Oxford, where he took PPE. "I did bugger all and got a third." He started drinking heavily at Oxford, but was still sufficiently together to go on and do an MA in Law and join a city law firm.

He says it wasn't unusual for him to have drunk half a bottle of Blue Label vodka before getting into the office in the morning. He says it isn't hard to see why he - or his father for that matter - got so into so much trouble with alcohol.

Being upper class, he explains, isn't about who you are, it's about "what you are and what you own." Emotions must be grasped and strangled, like unwanted nettles. Or anaesthetised by addiction.

His first marriage lasted four years. His second marriage fared somewhat better and in 10 years produced two children, Charles, now 23 and an in-

surance broker, and Lucy, 21, a psychology undergraduate. Charles, no, won't mind being stripped of his right to sit in the Lords. "He says to me 'Dad, I'm just not interested.' Is Martin a good father? "I try to be caring and loving and supportive and listen to them." Although, that said, "I haven't phoned Lucy for ages."

He has another daughter, Antonia, 8, from his third marriage. Like Charles and Lucy, Antonia will probably go to boarding school, too, "although her mother is against it." Why are you for it, Martin? "Well, it's what one does." Some things, I guess, take a long time to unlearn.

Marriage, he says, is a vain good thing. "An excellent estate, although I've never managed it for more than 10 years." What's excellent about it? "Well, no one wants to die on their own, hump?" He doesn't blame any of his wives for leaving him, as they all eventually did. "Drink makes you totally selfish. All you care about is you and your addiction."

The crunch came in 1983 when a drink-driving conviction meant his law firm booted him out. For the next decade, he went mad with drink, quite

literally. An attempt to dry out in a treatment centre resulted in him being sectioned under the Mental Health Act. He ended up in a "hospital lock up" with "a lot of raving loonies." He had to decide, at this point, whether he wanted to live or die. Whether he wanted to go on being an addict, or not. He decided he didn't. I congratulate him on not having touched a drop for four years now. He says: "I've done it before you know. For seven years once."

The money is all gone, yes. While his father didn't leave him much, his mother did. He inherited at 21 and 24. And how much exactly did you inherit, Martin? "A great deal." Which is? "Enough for me to have lived comfortably all my life without working, if I'd been sensible with it." Do you regret not being sensible with it? "I think regret is a fairly useless exercise." OK, do you miss being rich? "No, it's a blessed relief actually. Money gives you awesome power, but I don't think I found it terribly helpful. It justified my arrogance, my belief in my own superiority."

We leave the House to go out for lunch, passing that great statue of Richard I on horseback as we exit. "A pervert of

the highest order, you know?"

Really? "Yah. Did things with sheep." I take him to a French restaurant in the posh bit of Battersea he rarely visits because "I can't afford to." He has Dover sole - which is tastier than oversole - while he gets depressed about the fish knives. "Another ghastly Victorian improvement. No decent home would have fish knives."

Afterwards, I drop him home. Home is part of a little terraced house in a row of identical, little terraced houses in the seedy part of Battersea. He says I can't come in because "I'm frightfully untidy." The lace curtains are old and yellowing. The window frames are inches thick with dirt. I find myself giving him a bit of a hug in the back of a taxi. He can't help being who he is just like none of us can help being who we are. Still, I tell him that if ever there's an Adopt-A-Lord scheme - similar to, say, London's Zoo's Adopt An Animal scheme to save endangered species - then I'll most certainly come forward to claim him. "Oh, jolly good," he says cheerfully. "Then off he trots, perhaps to tell Horace all about his day. 'Had a vair good lunch, Horace...'"

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Call me father, not the old man

Becoming a parent again in middle age has its appeal. But it's all so very different second time round.

By Bruce Millar

It had been a bad day for Giles Gordon. His children's nanny, who was due to leave her job in two weeks' time, had phoned to say she would not be coming to work any more because she had "personal matters to attend to". She had seemed rather surprised to be told she would not be paid for those last two weeks. But at least Maggie, Giles's wife, would be home a day early this week for their younger daughter Clare's fifth birthday party.

That it was Giles who dealt with this domestic crisis says much about the different experience of fatherhood he is having second time around. The first of his three older children was born in 1968, and, he says, "I didn't change a single nappy in my first marriage - none of us men did in those days. Even if both parents were working, everybody assumed that the mother was responsible for the children. Now I take the girls to school, and when Lucy, who's seven, asked me to come to her sports day, I said 'Of course'."

Giles, the literary agent who represents Vikram Seth and Fay Weldon, works from the family home in Edinburgh, while his wife, Maggie McKernan, spends the first half of each week in London, where she is publishing director of Phoenix House. While this arrangement is not ideal - and was certainly not part of the plan when they moved north from London - it brings Giles close to his daughter, which is something he relishes. But even without Maggie's absences, Giles is more closely involved with his younger children than he was with his first brood.

The first time around he behaved in much the same way as his father and grandfather had. He paints himself as a grumpy and slightly distant paterfamilias, demanding quiet from his children in the evenings so he could read manuscripts. This may be forgiven, but it is clearly not forgotten. His 23-year-old daughter Harriet recently said, "Dad, you were terrible. You were always reading, and I never did anything with you." By the time Lucy was born things were ordered differently, and it is somehow fitting that Giles was there



Giles Gordon with his wife Maggie and their two daughters Clare and Lucy: "Having young children keeps you fitter, more mentally alert and stops you being self-satisfied" Colin McPherson

at the birth. "My mother and father were appalled," he remembers.

But there is more to it than the re-ordering of gender roles and expectations. Giles has a pet theory that career structure, nature - who knows, even God - have conspired to mess up the timing of our lives. We have children when we are at our busiest - socially active, establishing a career and marriage, and mortgaged to the eyeballs. In his case, he was an ambitious publishing executive who had to spend his evenings and weekends reading manuscripts. Under pressures like these something has to suffer, and it is usually our closest relationships.

There is a downside to being an older father which they don't like to dwell on: the sense of impending mortality. Giles, whose first wife died before all their children had left home, is certainly more aware of the

need to spend time with his young daughters: "In your twenties it just doesn't occur to you that you won't be there. At my age, you can't make that assumption." That said, Giles neither looks nor behaves like most people's idea of a 58-year-old. "Oh yes, having young children keeps you fitter, more mentally alert and stops you being self-satisfied."

When Jimmy Wray, the Labour MP for Glasgow Baillieston, became a father again at the age of 60 earlier this month, he confronted the problem of age with bullish optimism. "I'm still healthy," he declared. "I thrive on hard work and hope to go on until I'm 90." Nor was he worried that fathers are expected to change nappies these days: "That's never bothered me, and anyway they're much easier now with disposables."

He has nothing but happy memories of bringing up his first three

'If there is a downside this time, it is that I get more knackered... the thought of another is alarming - in fact I'm going to have a vasectomy soon'

children, now aged from 23 to 30, and says he's not planning any changes for Francis, his new baby. "I had a lot of fun with them, brought them up in the country with horses. It was a wonderful experience, very different from my own upbringing in the Gorbals, the slums."

Julia Cole, press officer for Relate, highlighted some of the pitfalls of

second-time fatherhood: "I don't want to be a prophet of doom, but second marriages are twice as likely to fail as first." And there are, she says, particular problems associated with an older man fathering a second family, sometimes having pressurised his new wife into motherhood. "Perhaps the father wants to time-travel backwards and reclaim his youth. This may be fine while the child is a baby, but by the time the child is a teenager the father may well be elderly and in need of care from his wife." Needless to say, communication between an adolescent and a man in his seventies can prove extremely difficult.

In addition, a new couple may rush into parenthood early because they are aware of the man's advancing age, or to celebrate their relationship - which are not the best reasons to have children. And if the

break up of the first marriage was in any way connected to children, the same set of problems tend to resurface if they have not been addressed properly the first time around.

The issue of age certainly exercises Steve Hudson, who at 46 with a daughter of two-and-a-half sees himself at the upper limit for fatherhood. "If there is a downside this time, it is that I get more knackered. Kitty is wonderful, but the thought of another is alarming - in fact I'm going to have a vasectomy soon." Steve, an art director in the film industry, has two grown up children from his first marriage and stepdaughters of 9 and 12. One unexpected pleasure from his second family came when one of his older daughters moved into the family home and became close to Kitty.

Although Steve regards himself as having been a hands-on father the

first time, he agrees with Giles Gordon about the terrible pressures of having children when you are barely into your own adulthood. "When I look back I hardly recognise myself then - it seems a long time ago and I don't remember enjoying the children as much. I was 21. In the middle of a university degree. Now I'm more settled and can take the time to enjoy fatherhood more."

For Steve, the differences second time around are not practical but internal - his own greater maturity, new qualities of patience and commitment, and an urgent sense of responsibility. Although he is sure his older children survived their parents' divorce intact, he simply can't imagine breaking up the family again: "Children need their fathers all the time," he said. "My wife has a theory that it's not the quality time, it's the shit time that counts."

A FAMILY AFFAIR 'Mark and I were in this together'

THIS WEEK: A MOTHER AND SON TALK ABOUT HOW THEY JOINED FORCES TO CAMPAIGN TO CHANGE THE LAW

Ann Keen, 49, MP for Brentford and Isleworth, and her gay son Mark Lloyd-Fox, 31, a director at the Commonwealth Institute in London, were reunited three years ago, nearly 30 years after she had given him up for adoption. Last Monday MPs voted overwhelmingly in favour of her amendment to lower the gay age of consent and bring it in line with the age of consent for heterosexuals.

Ann Keen:

When I was asked to be the main mover of the amendment, I rang Mark and we talked through what the consequences might be, particularly in terms of media attention. The fact that Mark has never hidden his homosexuality meant that it was bound to come into it. Interviewers were going to ask me how I would feel if my own son were gay, and I was going to say "Well, my son is gay."

I knew that as soon as I was open about it, they'd want to talk to him, too. So it was a case of, let's say we are fine by that, and do it together.

It's impossible to be closer to Mark than I am already, but this has been an exciting period of shared experience.

Few mothers get the opportunity to do something that affects their children like this. It's been good to

do this with him, when he obviously must have gone through pain about his sexuality.

Until he was in his twenties he tried to conform to what was all around him - heterosexuality - and he knew that not to conform was going to be difficult.

Parents don't want their children to go through pain of any kind, and what is more personal than your own sexuality? Not only are you suffering by discovering that you are gay, knowing that society discriminates; you have the added burden that you are a criminal at such a young age.

In the last few weeks I've become aware that if at some young age people felt like criminals, it stays with them all their lives. I felt incredibly privileged to lead last Monday's motion. My politics is about equality and human rights, and so it was the natural progression to take.

Also, as a nurse for 25 years I've worked with heterosexuals and homosexuals, so I know the complexities of families and the difficulties that people have with not being able to be themselves. It's so important to be yourself.

This issue has always been close to my heart, but I definitely have a greater understanding of it through Mark.

I only really knew I was the right person to move the amendment



Mark Lloyd-Fox and his mother Ann Keen, MP for Brentford and Isleworth

Andrew Burtman

when I got up to speak on Monday night, looked at the house and the opposing benches and started my speech.

It was very emotional, especially as I knew Mark was there, and I'm new to the House.

I thought, a mother, a nurse, the mother of a gay son, a woman, an older woman and an older straight woman is bringing this in, and rightly so.

Above all, though, I was speaking as a mother.

Mark Lloyd-Fox:

Ann approached me to say that she'd been asked to support this particular cause and how did I feel about it? I said I'd be proud if she did. She warned me that it could have an impact on me because the press and media have already focused on us and our story and the scrutiny would be even closer this time. Admittedly, it was somewhat overwhelming to find my picture on the front cover of much of the gay press, particu-

larly since I live in Soho. But it's a good cause, and we were hoping that by showing a mother and son campaigning together on this issue, it would get the message across.

People wouldn't describe me as shy, but that particular type of attention can be somewhat intrusive. I don't think anyone who's never received any media attention could prepare themselves for it.

I've never felt more like the stereotypical gay man who's conscious of how he looks than when

I saw my photograph in a paper and thought, goodness, is that me? That came as a bit of a shock - and I've joined a gym since. I've never lied to my colleagues, but equally I don't tend to say: "How do you do, my name's Mark Fox and I'm gay." To some people it may be obvious and to others not. So the whole experience felt a bit like coming out again. I thought I was done with all that, years ago. Still, I have no regrets whatsoever.

I get quite a bit of ribbing from

close friends and colleagues about it. "Which front cover are you on this week?"

Even more overwhelming is that people I've never met before have come up and said that they think it's incredibly courageous to put yourself in the public arena for this particular issue. Frankly I'd never thought of it in that way and I still don't think it's particularly courageous. You live life from moment to moment. This came up as an issue for Ann, I was happy to support it and suddenly there were cameras in front of us.

It was indescribable watching Ann give the speech. You do normal things such as have breakfast or travel in the car with your parents, so it's amazing to find yourself in the public gallery of the House of Commons watching your mother stand up and open a debate to move a clause to equalise the age of consent. I was extraordinarily proud and excited. It was all like a dream, a play or a film.

After the vote had been announced, I went to a party organised by Stonewall for all the campaign workers and helpers. It was quite a shock to go to a nightclub I'd been to before and see my mother's face magnified to a height of 15ft, delivering a speech to the House of Commons on a massive screen in front of 3,000 grating, mainly gay, young men and women.

Even with Ann's extensive knowledge and background in the subject, she rightly consulted widely on the contents of the speech. I helped out and there were certain areas where I felt that things needed more focus or stress than others, which is perhaps a perspective that only someone who's had the experience of an unequal age of consent can give. She doesn't always listen to my opinions though.

I've seen her more than usual because of the campaign but I haven't really spent more time with her because there's usually a journalist there, or we're in a group of 200 people. It didn't matter, though, because we're lucky in that we find it easy to socialise with each other, unlike some parents and children.

Interview by Rebecca Cripps

A new book reveals the horrific truth about bullying, addiction and violence among female inmates. By Angela Devlin

The terror inside women's prisons

HANNAH THOMPSON, the young violinist jailed two weeks ago for drug smuggling, had to be moved from Holloway because of vicious bullying and death threats from other prisoners who threatened to cut off the tops of her fingers.

Women bullying other women in prison is not new, but there is a new and much more terrifying form of bullying which is turning prisons into very dangerous places indeed.

One summer afternoon I spent an hour interviewing Carrie, a bright, witty woman in her early thirties, the mother of four small children. We sat chatting in the recreation room at HMP Brockhill, as other women played pool nearby. As we parted, Carrie told me she had been "shipped" to Brockhill as a punishment for her part in a violent bullying incident at another prison: "I held the door while five women attacked another woman to get her drugs."

This amicable, intelligent woman? It seemed inconceivable. "Women are so supportive of each other in prison - with one exception: when they're involved in drugs. I was addicted to smack and you do anything to get it - 99 per cent of the bullying in women's prisons is drugs related."

As I went from one prison to another, I began to assemble the jigsaw puzzle of terror and cruelty that is the prison drugs scene. I saw hints of it in the panic of young girls being allocated to other prisoners, begging officers not to send them to jails where there would be "girls waiting to get us for grassing."

"Drugs are causing terrible intimidation and brutality in women's prisons," said a senior woman officer. "But it's all being hushed up. It is a conspiracy of silence. Governors - particularly male governors - won't admit this is happening in the women's prisons they run. They can't face the fact that women will do such things to each other. But until they do admit it, these terrible incidents will continue."

The particular activity that male staff allegedly find hard to accept is vaginal searching, known to prisoners as "de-crutching". The commonest way for drugs to be smuggled into prison by women visitors is by "crutching". Packed in a condom or the finger of a plastic surgical glove, drugs are inserted into the vagina, sometimes wrapped in mint leaves to foil the sniffer dogs. "I have seen women smile and pat the dogs," said another officer. They know we can't touch them. We strip-search prisoners after visits, but internal examination would be classed as assault.

The drugs are transferred during the visit to the prisoner, who may have been forced by other prisoners to set up the visit solely for this purpose. Should this woman decide to

keep the drugs for herself, then the problems start. Stronger prisoners lie in wait, often in the holding-room outside the visits area, and in a toilet or alcove forcibly remove the drugs she has concealed.

Della, a Holloway prisoner, describes a well organised system: "There are strong women at the head of the drugs rackets and they appoint others as middlemen, or runners to do their dirty work for them. The weakest women are made to bring in the drugs. They pass them on to the middlemen, then the leaders distribute them."

Of course, internal concealment is not unique to women. As a woman officer says, "Male prisoners have orifices too." Male prison slang has plenty of words for anal concealment (bottling, chubbing, plugging). But because of the stereotype of women

gating unit was not much used in an open prison. The chaplain looked uncomfortable. "Well, it is used occasionally. Just the other day a girl had to be put in there because she'd gone absolutely berserk, smashed every stick of furniture in her room. She'd been the victim of a serious sexual assault. They were after getting the drugs off her and - well, they'd used forks on the poor soul."

In that prison, 10 of the 23 women I interviewed referred, unprompted, to "the forks incident". "Some of the drugs girls got a woman in the showers and tore her up inside to get her drugs," said one. "It could stop her ever having children."

There is no doubt that the Prison Service has been aware of such attacks for some time. In June 1996 the subject was discussed at a seminar on bullying in women's prisons, held



Hannah Thompson, the violinist jailed for drug smuggling, had to be moved from Holloway because of death threats from other prisoners... She is a 'grass' - one of the untouchables within the prison caste system

as being gentler, it is taking longer to accept that the practice exists in women's jails. Even harder to countenance are the vicious methods used by other addicts to seize the smuggled drugs for themselves.

"Addicts can be unbelievably ruthless to get their drugs," says one officer. "The middlemen are known as 'searchers'. They wear surgical gloves stolen from the hospital wing, lubricated with butter. They may use plastic spoons or spatulas and the victims are in terrible fear, especially if they were abused as children. There are often dreadful results - miscarriage, severe physical damage - it can even end in suicide. The victim is told that if she keeps quiet, it won't hurt so much. The whole process can be carried out in less than a minute. We call the police but the witnesses are often the perpetrators' assistants, so their evidence is tainted."

I was taken on a tour round the grounds of an open prison by the male chaplain. As we passed a squat brick building he told me this was "the block". I assumed this segre-

ated HMP New Hall, Yorkshire. In July last year, Sir David Ramsbotham, Chief Inspector of Prisons, published a major review of women's prisons and referred to "serious assaults reportedly carried out on women by other women prisoners searching for drugs that had been internally concealed". He regretted that "no central policy exists to highlight the different aspects of bullying among women prisoners".

Yet despite the authorities' awareness, the bullying continues, exacerbated by the Prison Service's drug-testing policy. Prisoners insist that random urine tests cause prisoners to switch from cannabis (which remains detectable for up to 30 days) to heroin and cocaine (which remain for only about 48 hours, and can be used over a weekend without fear of detection). As one prisoner told me, "The girls have started going off dope and on to crack. The trouble is, crack makes you aggressive."

Many women say they try to avoid "those crackheads" whom they blame for much of the bullying

and threats to other prisoners and staff. A senior officer showed me photographs of a deep wound in the upper arm of a female colleague bitten by an HIV-positive prisoner, crazed by sub-standard crack.

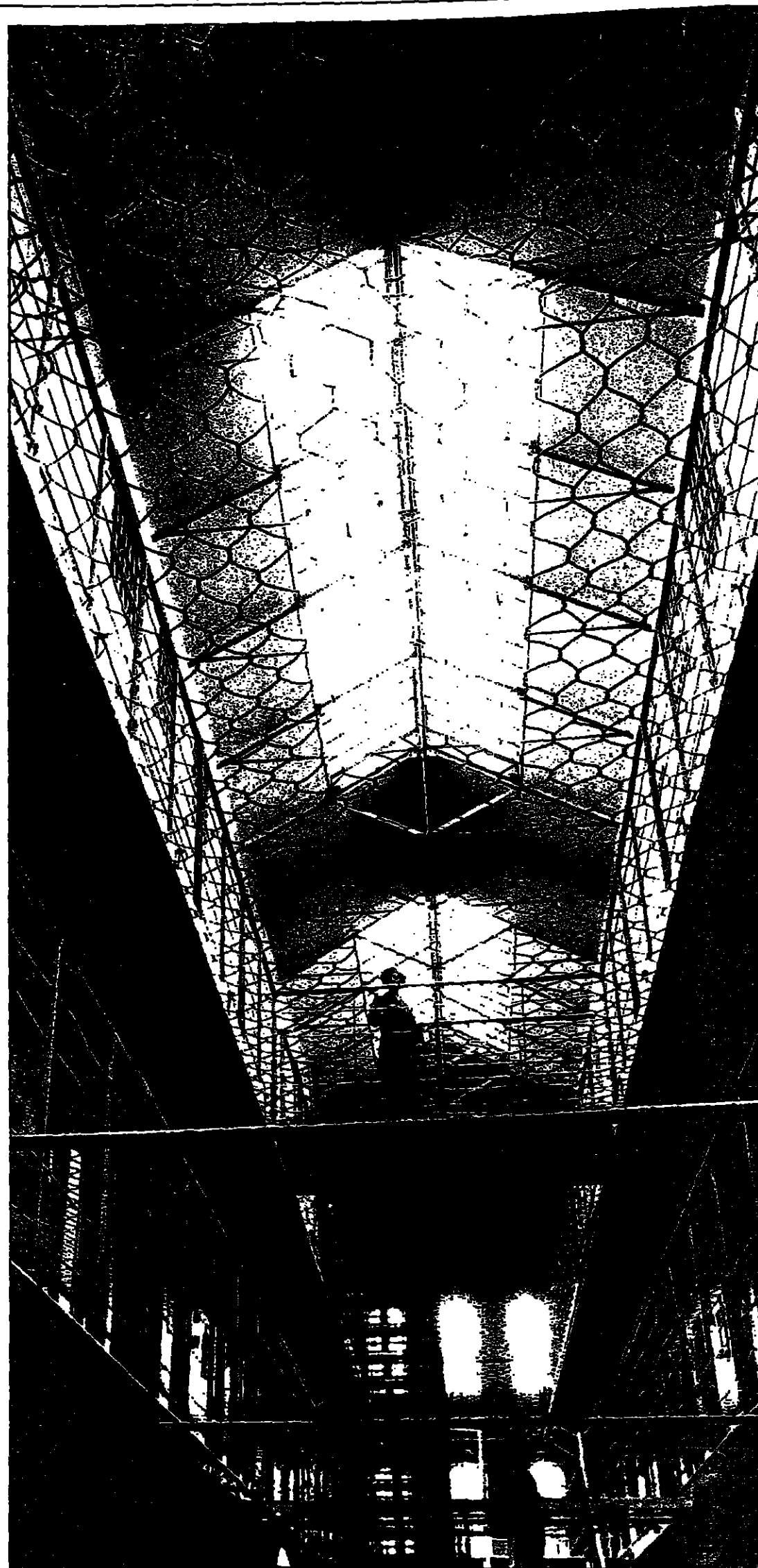
Drugs offences account for one third of female crimes, and many more are drug-related. Two-thirds of the 150 women I interviewed had been jailed for such offences. One governor estimates that 90 per cent of her incoming prisoners are drug-users. Many turn to drugs to "numb out" memories of childhood abuse, sadness and guilt about children left at home. Peer pressure turns others into addicts. In today's overcrowded jails, where education and rehabilitation programmes are slashed to pay for tougher security, there is little incentive to fight a habit, and little help to do so. Drugs are emotional props, "bird-killers" to help women do their time, and they will stop at nothing to get them.

It would be wrong to underplay the positive relationships that can be formed in prison. I met women who had been isolated by abusive men from contact with other women. To them prison is an escape, a place where for the first time they can make women friends. But, like male prisoners, women in prison quickly learn to subscribe to a "nick culture" where bullying is endemic. They learn to identify and ostracise the untouchables of the prison caste system: the "grasses" who, like Hannah Thompson, agree to co-operate with police; and the "nonces" who have harmed children or old people.

Research into gender and bullying shows that girls and women rely less on physical brutality (though this can be part of it) than on social exclusion. Women who have done time in Holloway agree that it is the worst prison for bullying - hardly surprising, as it is western Europe's largest women's jail and houses a shifting, volatile population of about 500 women, mostly remand prisoners, two-thirds of whom will spend just 28 days there.

This month Nicola Boshell, a 19-year-old single mother addicted to heroin and cannabis, was the first woman to come before England's new drugs court. Wakefield magistrates sent her to a community treatment programme instead of prison. Drug-related prison bullying will stop only when more addicts such as Nicola are diverted from custody. Yet the Prison Service is planning to create 1,000 new places for women prisoners this year and next. Surely the money could be better spent on community alternatives?

All names have been changed. *Invisible Women: What's Wrong with Women's Prisons?* (Waterside Press, £18) is published tomorrow



Bleak house: Holloway Prison, where drugs-related bullying is a constant problem

A hen's home guide to homeopathy

IT'S BEEN a big week for Death around here. Two shoebox burials already, and it's only Monday. If anything else snuffs it I'm going to throw principle to the wind and get down the fur and feather market with my cheque book.

After all, my sister's kids all grew up thinking that hamsters were immortal and it doesn't seem to have done them any permanent damage. I can see her now, showing a little corpse to the pet shop keeper. "Have you got one just like this?" The day our father died I nearly suggested that she and I do a quick trawl of the geriatric wards to see if we could find something spare that looked similar to take home instead of Dad. (Funny thing is, she's at an international conference this week giving a paper about "Death". How many slides of identical hamsters will a conference full of shrinks cope with, I wonder?)

First to go was Isabel, our oldest and most aristocratic hen - pure-bred silver-laced Wyandotte, like a little chicken tea-cosy with black and white scallops. Bald, mostly toothless and in chicken years about 203, she's been tottering ever more unsteadily around the garden for a fortnight. My daughter Bunny found her slumped over the alchemilla and ran up the garden doing her best Greek tragedy. "She's huh huh huh huh huh deead!"

IN THE STICKS

STEVIE MORGAN

That's where I made my first mistake. Influenced perhaps by my sister's "in hamster perpetua" I tried to revive Isabel with Rescue Remedy. Unable to follow all those scientific arguments against homeopathy, she opened an eye and stood up. But that's where the recovery stopped. For the next week she lingered in a box beside the Aga, with Bunny a grief-stricken Florence Nightingale. I thought of trying another Bach flower remedy but nothing seemed suitable: Clematis for "dreaminess and lack of interest"; Vervain for "over-enthusiasm" ... There was nothing for "knackered and toothless".

She was almost unconscious near the end but I have to hand it to her: she still managed a fabulous death scene, keeling over with a breathy squawk into Bunny's arms. I don't need to describe the scene: all you need to know is that Bunny could have got a Rada scholarship at four.

Nobody got any tea. We spent an hour laying Isabel out, and another two choosing the burial spot - under the blue irises. None of it was helped by my partner making comments about a "nice bit of chicken

stock", and telling us on no account to disturb any plant roots while digging the grave.

I had just about recovered by the next morning, when Bunny walked up the garden with another little chooky corpse. No histrionics this time. She was too impressed for that. "It's Greedy," she said, "she was Isabel's best friend. She just missed her too much." And if always sharing the same perch and dust bath constitutes chicken bonding, then that was true. I didn't say a word, even when Bunny did the number about the two of them being together in chook heaven (worms like spaghetti, eggs like soup bowls). I mean, who knows? Anything could happen if homeopathy works on hens and scientists have found some mass to particles that didn't have any. When I asked my partner about that funny particle thing he told me that physicists don't know "diddly squat".

"Gravity" he said, "what is it?"

"Um, when big things make little things fall towards them?"

"That's what it does. What is it?"

"I duano."

"Hah! There you are. You don't. Nobody does. They haven't got a clue."

So, Greedy and Isabel, I hope the afterlife is treating you well. I'm glad I didn't make you into soup.

Irvine heals the wounds

As the president of the General Medical Council, Sir Donald Irvine is on a mission to care and explain. By Jeremy Laurance



Sir Donald Irvine believes doctors should be more open

ABOUT TWO months into the General Medical Council's hearing of the case against the three doctors involved in the Bristol heart surgery disaster, Sir Donald Irvine let slip a remark that earned him a sharp rebuke from the doctors' legal defence team. "We are not dealing with statistics here, we are talking about children," he said.

It was the smallest sign of irritation from the man who, as president of the GMC, carries the mantle of the Doctors' Judge - and the onerous responsibility that goes with it. But it casts a glimmer of light on the personal agenda that has driven him from humble beginnings as a family doctor in Northumberland to the highest medical post in the land.

For Sir Donald, doctoring requires constant self-examination to ensure that things are being done right and are understood by the patient. This is not just a personal credo. It is also a habit. Throughout our 90-minute conversation in his central London office, one phrase recurred: "Does that make sense?" he inquired after each carefully measured point.

There is something else unusual in his demeanour. With his immaculately groomed silver hair and half-moon spectacles he fits the image of the eminent practitioner dispensing wisdom from on high. But his manner is earnest, rather than patrician. He sits on the edge of his chair, leaning forward for emphasis, the sweat standing on his brow in his effort to put his points across. Friends describe him as a worrier. One can only wonder at how he coped with the pressure of the eight-month Bristol hearing. Some see him as pompous and over-formal, but this is probably nervousness about getting the tone

wider institutional failure. In reply, Sir Donald indicates the list of more than a dozen issues at the end of his judgement on the case - covering standards, training and monitoring of performance.

He said: "The case raised issues of how we handle modern health care. That is why we see this list of points as so important. We looked at three of the players. I absolutely agree with the Government that the wider perspective should be revealed in a public inquiry."

With the possibility, though it is diminishing, of an appeal, he will say little more about the case beyond the fact that it was a tragedy which was harrowing for all concerned. It was a test case which we are unlikely to see again. But a greater tragedy will ensue if we fail to learn the lessons. Bristol was a disaster waiting to happen. The lesson that Sir Donald wants all doctors to learn is that self-regulation has to start with every individual doctor and work up from there. It means a constant process of self-examination, testing one's performance and behaviour and that of colleagues against agreed standards, responding appropriately to patients' needs. This must involve every medical team, every general practice and every hospital.

"The point medicine has got to change is this defensive, protective, inward-looking attitude. There is a huge cultural change to be made in the profession. In medical schools the

emphasis has been on acquiring knowledge and skills but behaviour towards patients is just as important. This echoes concerns that run back more than 30 years to his apprenticeship in his father's practice in the mining village of Ashington, Northumberland, in the 1960s.

"My father was very highly respected and it was all built on service and commitment. I worked in a practice where good relations with patients were the bedrock."

He is seized by the idea that we have all, doctors and patients alike, become dazzled by the onward march of science and technology to the point where they are in danger of driving out the traditional values of kindness, listening and caring that people, rightly, expect from medicine. "Patients want doctors who are kind and respectful, up to date and who know what they are doing."

Arrogance is the commonest failing that causes doctors to come before the GMC, he says, but it would be an over-simplification to pretend that arrogance was the root cause of the ills that the Bristol case has exposed. Many doctors do not understand why, when they are doing their best to bring all that science can offer to their patients' care, they are still criticised. Yet the opening up of new sources of information on the Internet, the advance of technology and rising expectations make it imperative that doctors know how to guide and care for their patients.

"There is almost a belief that medicine can do anything. I don't think we have done enough to explain that there are limits to what it can achieve. It is an obligation on doctors to explain as well as listen."

Goodness gracious me! Heard the one about the funny Asian?

Sanjeev Bhaskar is one of a new breed of Asian comics to spice up the scene. He talks to Randeep Ramesh

IT IS no joke being an Asian comic, according to the comedian Sanjeev Bhaskar. A founding member of the troupe behind the cult show *Goodness Gracious Me*, Bhaskar has triumphed where many have failed. The Nineties produced a plethora of brown British talent. Jag Mehta, a loudly rude comedian who broke through briefly in the Eighties, did so by overcoming the prejudice engendered by being an wheelchair-bound Asian. Jeff Mirza, whose rapier wit angered an older generation and pleased younger faces in equal measure, found acclaim easier to come by than fame.

None, however, have managed to shine as brightly as the team behind the BBC's *Goodness Gracious Me*. Born as a series of sketches on Radio 4, it soon built up a following among the station's middle-class, middle-aged audience.

This was despite making jokes at the expense of Muslims, Hindus and Sikhs, as well as featuring Asian characters such as the Kapoors, a social climbing couple so desperate to be accepted by white Middle England that they pronounce their name "Cooper". Another favourite was the pair of teenage boys who looked like extras from a *Beastie Boys* video, and eyed up women with the cry "rasmala" (an Indian sweet).

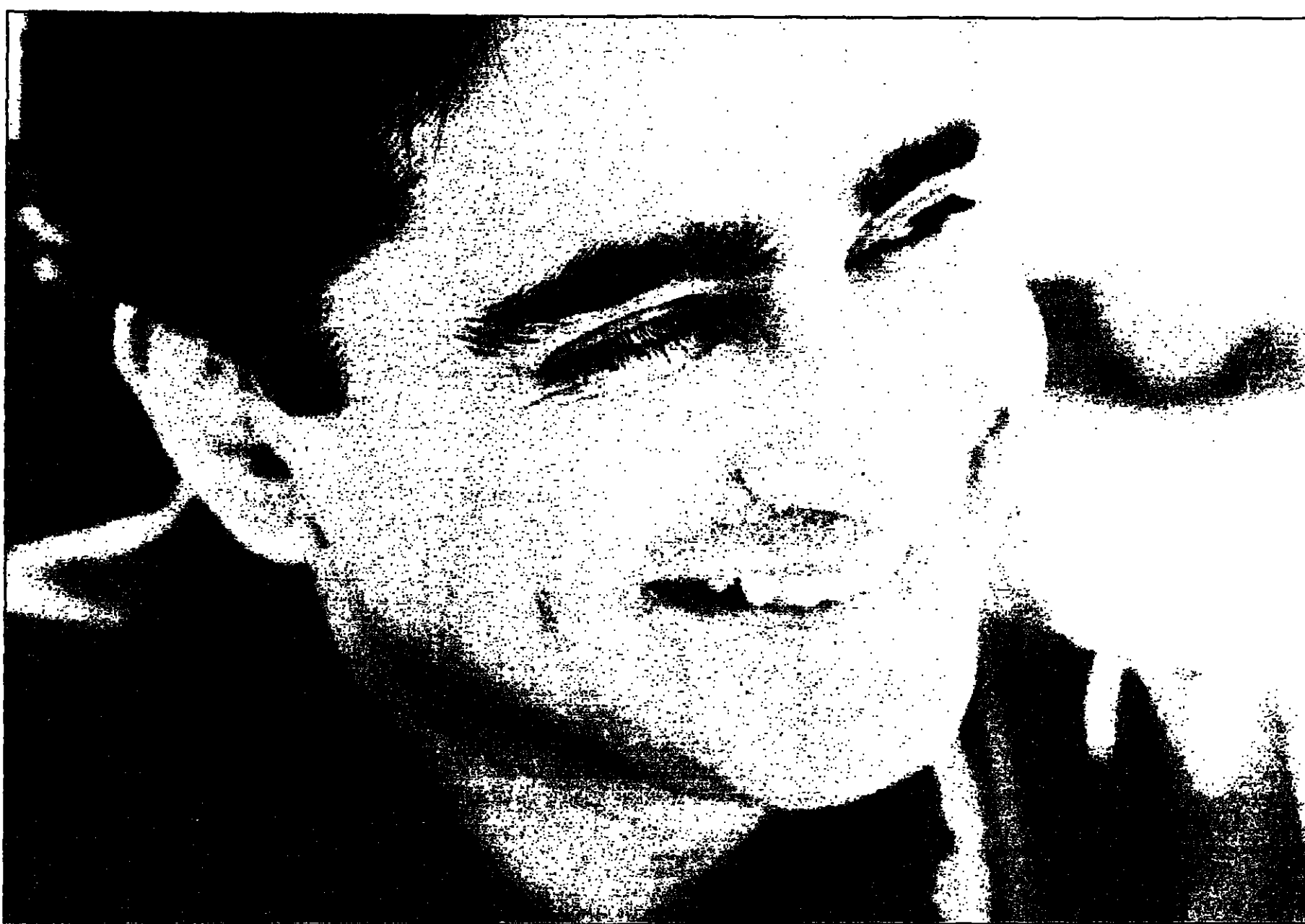
It was this ability to jump the cultural chasm without trading in stereotypes that ensured *Goodness Gracious Me*'s success. The second series won the 1997 Sony Gold Award for Comedy - radio's equivalent of a Bafta.

Initially the BBC said there was no money for a TV show, and we were offered a radio slot. I think they were pleasantly surprised," says Bhaskar. When translated to television the show's appeal was confirmed, and the series has been recommissioned for next winter.

"It is amazing how mainstream it has become," enthuses Bhaskar, who wrote "25 per cent of the series". "I walked past a pub in Islington recently and this skinhead shouted 'Oi'. He asked if I was in *Goodness Gracious Me*, and what did 'chuddies' (underpants) mean."

Paradoxically, it is some Asians who have been most angered by the show. Last month, the Broadcasting Standards Commission upheld "in part" the complaints of 12 viewers who said that the "religious symbol of the Hindu faith was unacceptably mocked" in one episode.

But, if nothing else, the "mainstreaming" of Asian culture is to be welcomed. During the Seventies and Eighties sitcoms and comedy shows made crude jokes at the expense of non-whites. Whether it was a browned-up Michael Bates in



Sanjeev Bhaskar (above) along with his colleagues in the hit TV show *"Goodness Gracious Me"* (below right) have pushed Asian comedy into the mainstream

It Ain't Half Hot Mum, or Peter Sellers' cod-Indian accent, the picture of Asians painted by TV comedy was seldom complimentary.

In fact, Bhaskar is forgiving of Sellers *et al*, placing them historically as relics of the Raj. "Peter Sellers was important. He was happy to improvise scenes in Urdu. He was part of a group that defined who British Asians were."

With British Asians now oiling the wheels of popular culture, it is no surprise to see *Goodness Gracious Me* riding high. Madonna is a self-confessed fan of the Bombay Jungle of Talvin Singh; the forehead of actress Kate Winslet is often graced with a *bhindi*; cropped sari tops are regularly seen in London's clubs.

While Bhaskar is happy for such a climate to be created, he is aware of the fickle nature of fame. "The worst thing for Asian comedy is for it to become a fashion," he says. "It won't survive if it is a fad."

However it portrays itself, *Goodness Gracious Me*'s success owed much to *The Real McCoy*, the Afro-Caribbean sketch show - the first non-white comedy commissioned by the BBC.

"*McCoy* cracked the mould. And a lot of us had worked on it. Our producer, Anil Gupta, was script editor there; Meera Syal worked on it; some of our writers were over there

first," says Bhaskar. But *Goodness Gracious Me* has eclipsed its predecessor, and its creators have risen with its success. Bhaskar, a former marketing manager with IBM, who has no theatrical training, has just finished filming a 30-minute film with Kenneth Branagh and Paul McGann.

"I walked past a pub in Islington and this skinhead shouted 'Oi'. He only wanted to know what 'chuddies' meant"

"The director saw me on *Goodness* and just asked me to do it. Both Paul and Kenneth Branagh are Rada-trained and I had to step back during the filming and say that is Kenneth Branagh."

The film, as yet unnamed, is the story of an Indian soldier in the First World War who questions his loyalty to a country he does not feel part of. "It is part of British history which is often overlooked," remarks Bhaskar. Bhaskar is quick to recognise that

his race may be a selling-point. "Do people want me because I am Asian? Yes, probably." His skin colour, he admits, "probably" led to a cameo role in the forthcoming sequel to *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, *Notting Hill*. "It's not a big part. After all, *Four Weddings* had just one black person in it - and he was crying at the funeral. In *Notting Hill*, there is a scene with a group of loaded-type lads in a restaurant, and I play a guy who's drunk and starts slagging off Julia Roberts."

Bhaskar will fill his summer with a return to comedy, and some odd dates on stage.

In fact, comedy is what Bhaskar loves most. Although he admits to admiring Richard Pryor, his highest praise is reserved for the Yiddish humour of Woody Allen. "I see a lot of parallels. Such as the way Woody Allen uses Jewish words and phrases that no one can understand but everyone laughs at."

Bhaskar's analysis sees Asian humour progressing because "we are part of the infrastructure now." "There are doctors, accountants, lawyers now who are British Asian. It is the power of the brown pound. I mean, we are everywhere, and you can't ignore us."

Sanjeev Bhaskar plays *Shepherd's Bush Empire* on 5 July



SOUNDING OFF

'WHILE OVER ON RADIO 2...' PIERRE PERRONE ON THE WORDS RADIO 1 WILL NEVER SAY

WITH 14 HOURS of live broadcast from the Glastonbury festival this weekend, Radio 1 had a half-decent schedule for a change. But this is very much the exception to the rule. Of late, the Saturday line-up of journeyman DJ Mark Goodier, laddish Chris Moyles, Lisa F'Anson and moonlighting A&R soul man Trevor Nelson has looked very weak against a Radio 2 team boasting the delights of Brian Matthew's *Sounds of the Sixties*, Johnnie Walker's new afternoon show and the supreme Paul Gambaccini with *America's Greatest Hits*. Although you can still count on Alan Freeman and Steve Wright to let the Radio 2 side down.

However, an increasingly insular tendency has taken hold of the two networks, which should be working in conjunction with each other. Three weeks ago, Radio 2 broadcast from the Fleadh a live set by the Corrs; it was something Radio 1 listeners, fed on a recurrent daily diet of the Irish group's cover of Fleetwood Mac's "Dreams", might have enjoyed. On Saturday evening, while One FM was hoisting its flag to the Glastonbury festival mast, Gary Barlow was in concert on Radio 2. Conceivably, some of Radio 1's target teenage audience might have tuned in to the former Take That singer. This one-hour show did not even warrant a mention on the other side.

Neither of these stations seems to be cross-trailing the other. Instead of fighting their own corner, BBC radio controllers should maximize our enjoyment of the airwaves and enable us to get the most from our licence fee. In fact, they often seem to do the opposite to the detriment of the riches within their own schedules.

Radio 2 has positioned itself as *The Daily Mail* of the airwaves and its forced jollity does grate at times, not to mention the way Terry Wogan still crashes the vocals on half the records he plays (surely DJ supremo Paul Gambaccini can give him a few pointers).

Throughout its daytime schedule, to paraphrase its slogan, Radio 2 is, at best, only "different every other time." However, the evening schedules are a Pandora's box of improbable delights. Blues, folk, country, soul, early rock 'n' roll - all of today's music roots but unfortunately scheduled against Radio 1's only cutting-edge shows (John Peel and Steve Lamacq).

Meanwhile, Andy Parfitt's *One FM* lurches between the street-cred of *New Musical Express*, XFM and Kiss FM and the knicker-wetting approach of *Smash Hits* magazine when it's not aping the Bizarre column of *The Sun*. Smut has crept into the schedules at an alarming rate, from "raised organs" on the Breakfast show to a vox-pop proclaiming "Would I give her one? Nah!" on a *Newsbeat* item about Geri Halliwell's sons make-up.

Who decided that Radio 1 had to follow a tabloid agenda? Why does it have Radio 5 Live not Radio 2 as its sister network? Why wasn't the recent Willie Nelson session, a major coup for Andy Kershaw, trailed more prominently? In fact, who says we want the intrepid global music fan shunted to after midnight on Thursdays (from the end of July, it seems)? You have been warned.

Steel yourself for revolution

Mark Steel can see the funny side in just about anything. By Jennifer Rodger

REVOLUTIONS ARE generally described as disastrous, grotesque or fantastically liberating. The writer, columnist, comedian and radio host Mark Steel has another word for them. He thinks they are "funny".

"For example, I think it's funny that in the middle of the French Revolution the Chief Guillotiner of Paris demanded a pay rise to account for increased productivity. Or in 1969, a team of New York gays had just forced the Tactical Patrol Force to retreat when they formed a chorus line and performed a musical in the middle of their own riot."

"In the American civil war, (which I would call a revolution) a Confederate General wondered why the Union Army seemed to know in advance exactly where his troops were heading. An ex-slave was employed as the General's washerwoman and she had been sending signals to the Union Army using an elaborate system of codes which involved hanging the washing in a different order to indicate the troops' direction."

The *Mark Steel Revolution* came about when Mark decided, after three series of his acclaimed *Mark Steel Solution*, that it was time to look back in time for something different. "I talked to the the produc-

er, who is also a history enthusiast and we decided to do revolutions with comic sketches."

The reason many historians miss the joy of revolution is because they have a tendency to view it as leaders who call for an uprising and the masses who meekly follow. "For instance, the historian Robert Service said that one of the reasons the Russian Revolution happened in 1917 was because Lenin was ill and he wanted it to happen quickly. Like old people might say, I am 78, if I don't go to the Lake District this summer I might never get another chance," says Steel. "It isn't just the Right, the Stalinist Left are just as bad."

In fact, because revolutions involve the types of people we all know from workplace or pub, they are often characterised by confusion, enthusiasm and chaos. Fortunately for *The Mark Steel Revolution*, this amounts to plenty of material for comic sketches. "The night before the storming of the Bastille there were mass meetings held round Paris to organise the seizing of weapons and get hold of the Bastille. I think anyone who has ever seen a tenants meeting on a council estate will have some idea of what these



meetings would have been like. There must have been a hard man shouting, 'why wait till tomorrow you wimps, let's go down now'. Someone would have offered his brother the bricklayer to knock up a castle, there would have been a hippy who said he didn't have any weapons but could bring a flute, someone would have been screaming, 'never mind the Bastille, when is someone going to fix my drains', and a bewildered pensioner would have wondered whether she was at the right place to get a dog licence."

There is another quirk of revolutions. Most of the time, they are not

the work of an outside agitator or a heroic leader snapping their fingers, so hardly anyone sees them coming. "There was a journalist called Louis Sebastian-Mercier who a year before the French Revolution, wrote: 'Unlike in London, the prospect of rioting in France is an impossibility.' In April 1968, a bloke called Andre Gorz wrote a pamphlet arguing that the power of the working class had come to an end. One month later he couldn't get it published because the whole country was on strike."

This in some ways explains the final reason why there is plenty of humour in looking back at past revolutions. As soon as they happen, the old ideas that once seemed to make sense look ridiculous. "For example, a sex education guide for boys, published just prior to the sexual revolution of the Sixties, said 'girls' feelings are rather different to boys', in that sex to them is rather like looking at a beautiful sunset." So there you are boys - if during sex your woman says she can see Canary Wharf in the distance, it's a compliment."

The Mark Steel Revolution is at 6.30pm tomorrow, repeated on Wednesday, 11.30pm, Radio 4

THE RATINGS

BBC 1
A decimated *EastEnders* holds off the World Cup, at least for the first of the group matches, and the perennial *Only Fools and Horses* returns

PROGRAMME	TOTAL
1 <i>EastEnders</i> (Tue/Sun)	16.22
2 <i>EastEnders</i> (Mon/Sun)	15.64
3 <i>EastEnders</i> (Fri/Sun)	12.53
4 <i>World Cup</i> (Brazil v Scotland)	12.09
5 <i>Neighbours</i> (Mon)	10.02
6 <i>Neighbours</i> (Tue)	9.09
7 <i>Only Fools and Horses</i>	8.88
8 <i>World Cup</i> (Cameroon v Austria)	8.74
9 <i>World Cup</i> (Holland v Belgium)	8.73
10 <i>The Clangers</i>	8.54

BBC 2
Despite the wilfulness of the scheduling, Springfield's nuclear family can't be kept down

PROGRAMME	TOTAL
1 <i>The Simpsons</i> (Mon/Sun)	5.85
2 <i>The Travel Show</i>	4.08
3 <i>Home Front</i>	4.08
4 <i>Cueless</i>	3.56
5 <i>Neighbours</i> (Fri)	3.50
6 <i>To Catch a Killer</i> (Thur)	3.00
7 <i>To Catch a Killer</i> (Fri)	2.97
8 <i>Neighbours</i> (Wed)	2.88
9 <i>In the Red</i>	2.74
10 <i>Heart and Souls</i>	2.70

ITV
Stars in *Their Eyes* puts on a million viewers for the final programme in the series and edges into the Top 10

PROGRAMME	TOTAL
1 <i>Coronation St</i> (Mon)	17.04
2 <i>Coronation St</i> (Wed)	15.84
3 <i>Coronation St</i> (Sun)	14.80
4 <i>Coronation St</i> (Fri)	14.42
5 <i>Emmerdale</i> (Tue/Wed)	11.49
6 <i>Emmerdale</i> (Thur)	10.68
7 <i>World Cup</i> (Jamaica v Croatia)	10.23
8 <i>Stars in Their Eyes Final</i>	10.15
9 <i>Stars in Their Eyes Result</i>	9.74
10 <i>Wheel of Fortune</i>	9.28

CHANNEL 4
A mystery: what happens to *Countdown* viewers after the giddy heights of Monday and Tuesday?

PROGRAMME	TOTAL
1 <i>Brookside</i> (Fri/Sat)	4.61
2 <i>Brookside</i> (Tue/Sat)	4.52
3 <i>Brookside</i> (Wed/Sat)	4.34
4 <i>Tourist Trap</i>	4.06
5 <i>Countdown</i> (Mon)	3.93
6 <i>Countdown</i> (Tue)	3.74
7 <i>Circle of Friends</i>	3.69
8 <i>Hollyoaks</i> (Thur/Sun)	3.35
9 <i>ER</i>	3.20
10 <i>Montel Williams</i> (Mon)	3.12

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From Meat Loaf to Middle England

Jim Steinman has worked with almost everyone. So why not Lloyd Webber as well... By Nick Barber

TWENTY YEARS after "Bat Out of Hell", Jim Steinman, who wrote all of its words and music, is only vaguely recognisable as the man standing next to Meat Loaf on the album's back cover. While Loaf has lost a couple of stone since that photo session, Steinman has gained a similar amount. His hair is still long, but is now completely silver.

His dress-sense has not aged with him. In his Dorchester hotel suite last week, he was wearing dirty white Reeboks, faded blue Levi's, a black shirt, a tie decorated with a large skull design, and a biker jacket with Excalibur painted on the back. "Andrew keeps wanting to take me to lunch at the House of Lords," he says, "but he can't figure out if there's a dress code..."

The Andrew in this last sentence is Andrew Lloyd Webber, who has a new musical, *Whistle Down the Wind*, opening in London on Wednesday. Steinman is the lyricist. For a Steinmaniac like me, it's a dream come true to meet the man whose lyric sheets were pored over by my 10-year-old self, but it's hard to reconcile Lloyd Webber - lowbrow, Tory, loved by grannies - with Steinman, overlord of gothic rock'n'roll excess. "Hey, grannies love me," he protests. "They're gothic grannies, but... you know, Andrew's public persona is very different than his private persona. What I see, basically, is this great big kid, who just listens to music and jumps up and down and cries and laughs."

As his clothes might indicate, Steinman is a big kid himself. Sardonious and mysterious in photographs, in person he is the most buoyant and voluble interviewee imaginable. His brown eyes gleam as he chatters fluently about every-

thing from draft-dodging to the derivation of the word "Cajun".

He quotes bad reviews with gleeful appreciation, he rhapsodises Phil Spector and Wagner, and he follows my first question with three hours of storytelling, reducing my contribution to the interview process to an "Oh really?" and a "When was that again?" every 20 minutes.

So what about Andrew Lloyd Webber? "I'm not really that much the opposite of Andrew," insists Steinman. "Musically, we have the same roots. We grew up with opera, theatre, music and rock 'n' roll: a rare, strange and combustible combination. And I set out to do theatre. I was amazed I ended up doing records. To this day I put a lot of my theatrical impulses into records, and I think Andrew has put a lot of his rock'n'roll impulses into theatre. We've had parallel careers... except he has about \$800m more than me, so somehow they didn't work out quite so parallel!"

Steinman's career got off to an explosive start in 1969, when, as a student at New England's exclusive Amherst College, he wrote *The Dream Engine*, "an unbelievably brilliant three-hour epic rock musical" featuring killer nuns and a 55-minute nude scene. He was signed up by Joe Papp, producer of *Hair* and *A Chorus Line*, and by 1973, they were staging Steinman's first professional musical, *More Than You Deserve*. One of the auditionees was an overweight Texan christened Marvin Lee Aday, but better known by his high-school nickname, "Meat Loaf" walked in, in overalls, and sang, "You've Got to Give Your Heart to Jesus". His eyes rolled into his head, you could only see the whites of his eyes, and he con-



Jim Steinman (left) alongside his musical collaborator, Andrew Lloyd Webber

Geraint Lewis

vulsed his hands in these great eloquent spasmodic motions. I thought, this is the most thrilling freak I've ever seen. And also I thought, this is a true Wagnerian Siegfried."

Steinman was tiring of the New York theatre audiences of the time - "old people and their parents" - so he set about cutting an album with his new friend. Unsurprisingly, it wasn't easy convincing investors that viable competition for *Saturday Night Fever* consisted of a sweat-drenched man-mountain bellowing an 11-minute aria about a fatal motorcycle crash. "We got rejected by at least 50 record companies and producers." But when *Bat Out of Hell* was eventually completed, in 1977, it was unique: a head-on collision of German opera and the humour and immediacy of early-Sixties American pop. It's now the third

biggest selling album ever.

Steinman wrote another album for Meat Loaf, *Dead Ringer*, and when Loaf temporarily lost his voice, Steinman sang on an album of his own, *Bad for Good*. By this time he was so in demand as a producer and songwriter that he could pick and choose his next projects. His fans have never quite been able to work out why he picked and chose the ones he did. "It's pretty weird to have done both Barry Manilow and Sisters of Mercy," he laughs. "But I never deal with what's supposed to be hip or not. I just take projects that are interesting."

Hence, his "spotty, strange career", which has more recently seen him share studios with Celine Dion, Take That and Meat Loaf again, for 1993's *Bat Out of Hell II*. It was almost as hard to get off the

ground as its predecessor: "The record companies thought it was a joke. I said, trust me, 16 years is exactly the right interval. You guys put out records too fast."

In 1984, Lloyd Webber asked him to write the lyrics of *Phantom of the Opera*. Steinman was busy with a Bonnie Tyler album but the composers kept in touch, and 10 years later, Lloyd Webber suggested another collaboration.

They have been working on *Whistle Down the Wind*, on and off, ever since, and Steinman has also had time to squeeze in another project: he was commissioned by Roman Polanski to compose a musical based on his classic horror-comedy, *The Fearless Vampire Killers*. *Dance of the Vampires* opened in Vienna last October, and is now the biggest show in Europe. "Bigger

than *Phantom*," smiles Steinman. "I'm actually the first person in history to have done this, to do music for one show and lyrics for the other in one year. Probably a dubious achievement."

The man who wrote, "A wasted youth is better by far than a wise and productive old age" is a living contradiction of his own maxim.

"I'm 50," he says. "I can't believe it. Fifty really is apocalyptically old. I love making fun of old David Crosby rock'n'rollers who look ridiculous, but I'm one of them now! I don't care. I've actually decided there's nothing wrong with that. It's better to be an old rock'n'roller than an old accountant."

'Whistle Down the Wind' opens Wed, Aldwych Theatre, London (0171-416 6003)

ON SONG: THE LLOYD WEBBER STORY

Casting for a composer he sometimes displays a strange inability to recognise the musical demands of his roles. The vocally challenged Roger Moore quit *Aspects of Love* prior to the opening. Lloyd Webber sacked Faye Dunaway during rehearsals for *Sunset Boulevard* implying that her vocal chords were fading away. Unsurprisingly, she sued.

Careers Elaine Paige might never have become a household name were it not for the "Search for a Star" casting of *Evita*. Sarah Brightman, who had earlier "Lost Her Heart to a Starship Trooper" lost her heart to him and fast-forwarded her career with *Phantom*. Jason Donovan and Donnie Osmond (No... Yes!) have him to thank for the resurrection of their careers in *Joseph*. Anyone who is anyone (with the exception of Alma Cogan, who was unwisely detained) served time in *Sunset Boulevard* to bolster the box office.

Idea He knows a good subject when he sees one. Handel was probably the last composer to spot the commercial potential of Joseph and his brethren and people weren't exactly queuing up to make musicals out of TS Eliot's poems when he dreamt up *Cats*.

Pioneer He and his erstwhile lyricist Tim Rice were the first to release albums of the songs in advance of the show with *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Evita*. That way, your audience goes in humming the tunes.

Business Acumen He's rich. Very. And no fool. Curtain up time of *Aspects of Love* was moved later so that those failing to get into *Phantom* could nip round the corner to see the other (emptier) show.

Reputation Longs to be taken seriously. Witness his Requiem and the fact that he offered *Whistle Down the Wind* to the National Theatre. Four-times collaborator Trevor Nunn suggested that it might be a trifle unseemly for the country's flagship theatre to spend its subsidy staging the work of the country's wealthiest composer.

DAVID BENEDICT

By George, the man has style

THEY SAY George Fame is hip again now, but if that's true, why am I sitting in a venue as bare as a Southampton dance hall on a wet Wednesday night, surrounded by Puffa jackets and perms? It wasn't supposed to be like this. But then, maybe booking the Forum on England's World Cup match night was ambitious. It's true that, around the mid-Eighties, when he was one of the best paid producers of advertising jingles, and purveyor of pseudo-pop cabaret, George

Fame really was the height of un-hip. Some purists even lambast him now for the "novelty hit singles" he put out around the late Sixties; though how many of us would know him without "Yeh Yeh, the zippy Get Away" and his winsome remake of Bobby Hebb's schmaltzy "Sunny"? There are also those who don't much like "Rosetta", his collaboration with ex-Animal Alan Price - though on reflection, that was a bit trad, dad.

MUSIC

GEORGIE FAME'S
BIRTHDAY BIG BAND
THE FORUM
LONDON

The reverence is all because the man born Clive Powell in Leigh, Lancashire 55 years ago today has been raised to god-like status for sticking bluesy jazz and R&B on a British map that hadn't too many pins in it before. His winning ticket was a nasal croon and that funky Hammond organ - though, after a stint in a local cotton mill, Fame's first job was as a pub pianist. By 17, he was playing alongside Billy Fury, Eddie Cochran and Gene Vincent, but it was in 1962 that he and the Hammond got together.

Holding court at Soho's Flamingo club, the gap-toothed prodigy entertained audiences of American GIs, budding Hepcats in what sounds like a take from Colin MacInnes' *Absolute Beginners*, and much of what he plays tonight dates from those ultra-cool days. Because it's George's party, with the whole of the upstairs sectioned off for his birthday guests, and he can play what he wants to.

The stage at the Forum is fairly dripping with brass - five saxes, four trombones, a sea of trumpets, including young

maestro Guy Barker - plus guitars, drums, vibes, even a conductor: more of a crowd than we have in the audience. Which is a shame because Fame, who actually looks like a wiry mid-point Sinatra with more hair, is hot, from a belting "Yeh Yeh", and a loose "Ballad of Bonnie and Clyde", through... just about everything else.

Fame's recent renaissance was partly cued by his work with Van Morrison - and we're half expecting Morrison to appear. No one missed him. These were George's people and they buoyed him up through two hours of shiny bebop and soulful beauty. Fame is a modest and friendly cove, and there's no doubting his proficiency on barnstormers like Gershwin's "Strike Up the Band".

Still, it's the gorgeous meditative pieces that stand out, like Chet Baker's blue-note lullaby "But Not For Me" or Mose Allison's regretful "Was". "When I become was, and we become were/ Will there be any sign or a trace/ Of the lovely contour of your face.../ Wonderin' aloud to a friend/ What was it like, to be then?" Having proved he can warm up this echoing Valhalla, Fame really doesn't have to think about "then" at all. This review appeared in later editions of Saturday's paper

GLYN BROWN

Washed out, gone to seed and clear as mud

GLASTONBURY
FESTIVAL
BLUR

JUST BEFORE Blur came on stage on Saturday night, some wag in the audience hoisted an oversized pair of comedy Y-fronts on a stick. In a sea of inflatable hands and jesters hats, this doesn't qualify as unusual. But after a while, those underpants came to feel worryingly like a critical appraisal.

At the peak of their powers, Blur could bring atmosphere to the moon. At last year's V97 festival, or at their own Mile End show in 1995, their vivacity was irresistible. There has never been anything very subtle about their live shows, but they have always managed to locate the intimate little nooks and crannies in the dubious phenomenon of the stadium gig. Not at Glastonbury, though. From the moment the band appeared, they seemed less interested in moving the audience than in removing themselves from the stage as quickly as possible.

One of the defining characteristics of Damon Albarn's stage persona is his matey warmth, though even that was in short supply.

"Nice turn out," he observed, surveying the crowd which stretched as far as the fields would allow. Later, he dedicated "End of a Century" to the daytime television host Judy Finnegan; the most stimulating his conversation got was when he asked us if we had seen the TV series *Stella Street*. No one was holding their breath waiting for a Wildean epigram, but you had to concede that those enor-



Blur's hit-and-miss performance on Saturday night

Martin Godwin

mous Y-fronts possibly had rather more charisma than he did. The band's playing wasn't much spikier than Albarn's banter. They opened with a version of "Girls and Boys" that was muddier than the ground that you had spent the weekend trudging through. "On Your Own" followed, providing one of those moments when everyone in the audience turns to their neighbour with that expression which says: "Is it me, or is this out of tune?"

Pleasingly crunchy guitar noises and space invader bleeps introduced the song but then it dissolved into discordant chaos which even the term

"experimental" couldn't excuse. Each member of the band seemed to be relating to his colleagues via satellite link-up, putting them a few seconds behind or ahead of each other. There were some songs which even perverse arrangements couldn't destroy. "Popscene" was polished off with cruel intensity, the brass section swooping over Graham Coxon's scratchy guitar line with incongruous grandeur. There was a sour-sweet "Beetlebum" and a lush, protracted "For Tomorrow" which gave the brass section another chance to take us to those parts which Blur can't reach on their own. A new

song, written for the animated series *South Park*, was an unexpected pleasure, a bluesy ramble featuring the refrain "I lost my girl to the Rolling Stones". But it was a mistake to resurrect the banal early song "Slow Down", which reminded us of the days when all Blur wanted was to be Ride, especially on an evening when they came close to realising that ambition.

It was, hopefully for one night only, Blur on autopilot - rent-a-headliners available for weddings, bar mitzvahs, festival and, on this evidence, funerals too.

RYAN GILBEY

EN
O
A joyful, inspiring evening!
This Falstaff will warm your heart, uplift your spirit and captivate your ears and eyes!
Sunday Telegraph

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Verdi

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT LISTINGS ARE ON PAGES 21 & 22

NETWORK

هكذا عن أداس



Ennis in County Clare, described in 'The Rough Guide to Ireland' as having a 'pleasantly inconsequential air', is heading for superhighway glory John Coghlin

Totally wired: Ennis is the global village

Once a 'pleasantly inconsequential' town, it will now shape the future of technology. By Rob Brown

ENNIS is described in *The Rough Guide to Ireland* as having a "pleasantly inconsequential air".

And that is probably how this bustling market town on the windswept west coast strikes most of the summer tourists who wander through its handful of central lanes, admiring its medieval friary or craning their necks to survey the giant monument to the great Catholic emancipator Daniel O'Connell, which dominates its main square. But appearances can be deceptive. Ennis is now far from inconsequential. Having been designated Ireland's "Information Age Town", it is currently in the process of being showered with IR£15m worth of IT equipment and training, courtesy of Telecom Eireann, which wanted a test-bed for the new technologies set to transform the way people in Ireland, and everywhere else, live and learn.

If all goes according to plan, 80 per cent of households in this town (population 15,535 at the last census and growing fast) should have a computer by the end of October, making the commercial capital of County Clare the most heavily wired community anywhere in the world.

Each and every household within its urban district boundary is entitled to pick up a Pentium II PC plus a suite of software packages and Internet access for a mere IR£260 (normal retail price: IR£1,800). Anyone who still doesn't have a telephone can get a free connection.

A fibre optic ring is being constructed around Ennis to put its inhabitants on to the fast lane of the information superhighway. Local businesses and public amenities such as the health centre will be encouraged to develop online services and every-

one in the town will be offered instruction in how to make the most of them.

Ennis, which beat Kilkenny, Kilmarnock and Castlebar - indeed, 50 other Irish towns in all - for the accolade of Information Age Town, is obviously hoping to use it to corner a larger slice of the inward investment that has transformed Ireland's previously stagnant economy into the so-called Celtic Tiger.

At this early stage, it appears, the project is generating not just excitement but also some mild tensions in the town, as well as resentment in outlying areas. Some inhabitants of the Burren, County Clare's bleak and rocky rural hinterland, are plainly peeved that they won't benefit from what could be characterised as a collective technological windfall.

At the moment, though, there does not seem to be much happening in Ennis to stir up envy. The town has not been instantly transformed. The only visible sign of the initiative is the

road sign that informs visitors that Ennis is the Information Age Town. There are stickers on a number of shop windows making the same proud boast. And books about computers and the Internet are prominently stacked in the Ennis bookshop, which suggest that computer literacy is spreading swiftly.

The benefits of the project have been felt most immediately and visibly in the dozen schools dotted around the town, which now boast computers in every classroom along with a state-of-the-art multimedia laboratory. The sparkling new facilities at the Holy Family school were even blessed by the Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern, when he visited Ennis in March to inaugurate the project.

Teachers at both primary and secondary level are being offered training by the University of Limerick, to help them integrate IT into the education process. They are having to adjust to an invasion of green screens and girls at Rice College, a boys' sec-

ondary school run by the Christian Brothers, which went co-ed last year. But 15-year-old Lee Shannon and his classmate Clinton Keane appear to be coping with both phenomena. They are especially thrilled, Lee tells me, by the fact that they can now play computer games whenever they have a free class.

Parents are also, naturally, pleased by the scale of investment in their children's education. "I'm hoping it will give him a head start," says Mary Hanley of her five-year-old son, Gearoid. Mrs Hanley hopes to have a computer at home soon, recently having successfully completed the small computer aptitude test set by the task force.

Mary Gilfoyle, 61, also took the test. She's having a PC installed in her home not primarily for herself, but for her 32 grandchildren, several of whom are already old hands at the computer.

In order to receive a PC, one member of each household (who must be 16 or over) has to demonstrate that

they can do five tasks: set up and start the PC; open a new file, type five lines of script and save a document; retrieve a document from a floppy disk; access the Internet; and send an e-mail message.

A few of those frustrated by the delay in receiving a PC have voiced their bitterness in the letters page of the local newspaper, *The Clare Champion*. But the task force has refused to speed up the roll-out rate of around 250 PCs per week.

"There may have been the perception that we would arrive with a lorry-load of PCs and hand them out almost like Smarties," says TJ Waters, chairman of the task force overseeing the project. "This is not in the best interest of the people of Ennis and would be doing a huge injustice to the Information Age project."

Telecom Eireann has given us the chance of a lifetime. The project must start out on a proper footing so that Ennis truly becomes Ireland's Information Age Town in every aspect of community life."

Triona McInerney, who co-ordinates the project, admits that "managing expectations" has been a challenge. She also accepts there are some inhabitants of Ennis who will probably never get wired. But the biggest technophobes, she swiftly stresses, aren't senior citizens, who are embracing the initiative, but middle-aged men and women.

The entire Ennis experiment will be closely monitored by those who care about the economic and social effects of the Information Revolution. What happens here will also, doubtless, earn a mention in Irish history books, for nowhere illustrates more dramatically the death of the old Ireland and the emergence of the new.



Children of the Holy Family school's computer room, inaugurated by Bertie Ahern John Coghlin

Stop treating us like web dummies



EVA PASCOE

This sudden vote of no confidence in our online IQ is strange ...

THERE IS a worrying trend emerging in Internet development. An increasing number of new Internet products are being rejected at the funding stage before the online customer even gets a chance to play with them. "The Internet is now a mass medium so we must dumb it down for the masses" appears to be the new motto.

As the online population (currently estimated at 90 million) expands, large media owners increasingly want to feed us simplistic Internet products created for the lowest common denominator. Any more than two buttons on the screen and the customer will panic and run away from the Internet to the safety of the high street, or so goes the new design wisdom spreading among venture capitalists.

Recently I saw an exciting proposal for a travel website, to be used for creating video brochures. It was technically novel, but since it required the potential customer to download a plug-in for their web browser, the proposal was rejected. Apparently, mass market Internet users are classified as cognitively incapable of learning how to install plug-ins. Another product seeking funding was based on combining online cinema ticket sales with videos of trailers displayed in a personalised manner. It was very cool, but hey, a plug-in was needed, so the potential backers backed away.

This sudden vote of no confidence in our collective online IQ is strange, as it is not supported by any real evidence. The arguments that the venture capitalists are using go all the way back to the QWERTY keyboard, which was designed not to speed things up but rather to slow down typists, to keep them from jamming mechanical typewriters. There were attempts to improve keyboards, the most prominent by Dvorak, but despite the advantages of new layouts, people still cling to the old, slow QWERTY. This is cited by some venture capitalists as proof of how dumb we are, and how unworthy of new, more efficient solutions.

However, QWERTY is an entirely different problem, having originated from a large, installed user base (ie, millions of people who learned the old keyboard style) who can type at a reasonable speed. To most people, saving 10 minutes a day is not a good enough reason to learn a new keyboard layout.

However, this is different from learning how to use an Internet product that will save you several hours per week at the low price of having to learn how to download and install plug-ins. If a new ticket-ordering site saves your Saturday by making sure you don't have to queue for the cinema only to find out that the last ticket has been sold, I bet you will figure out how to download that plug-in without too many problems.

Proof that people are willing to learn how to use new tools can be found in the PalmPilot. SCom's personal digital

organiser (PDA) has been a runaway success, selling a million units in less than 18 months. Its success, according to its creators, is based upon a single assumption: that people like learning to work with new tools.

The problem that dogged previous PDAs was in handwriting recognition. We all write differently and if you put the burden of having to read the different letters on the PDA, you will end up with a slow tool. Jeff Hawkins, creator of Graffiti, the handwriting system used by the PalmPilot, followed his belief that people like learning and asked the customers to learn a handwriting system that the Pilot finds quick and easy to read. By putting the burden of having to learn the special signs on the user, Hawkins was able to build a device that was faster. Makers of other PDAs think people are too dumb to learn a new handwriting system and so have lost out to Hawkins, a guy who took time to understand human motivations.

There are plenty of complex products on the Internet which are very popular despite the fact they require a learning curve. For example, shopping on Amazon (<http://www.amazon.com>) requires the user to go through a complex decision path before making a purchase, to have the ability to use online forms and to have an understanding of hypertext. A new online fashion expert at Evans (<http://www.evans.ie>) gives advice based on an individual customer's body shape, and simplifies the purchase of fashion items. It requires the skill of visual pattern matching and fluency in use of hypertexted decision paths. These are not skills that many women have to use every day, yet the site has recorded more than a million visits since its launch. Further proof that, despite the fact that a lot of interactive consumers are beginners, this does not mean they are incapable of learning how to download files, configure new peripherals or use complex pattern matching.

So, Mr Venture Capitalist, give us some credit and take a chance on innovative new products. After all, our generation is being defined by the collective experience of using the Internet.

Dumbing the Net down now, after we have learned so much, would be a criminal waste of all the cognitive energy unleashed by the Information Revolution.

You can lose your data and not lose your mind

Backing up your files via the Internet means that spare copies are always available. By Sandra Vogel

ARIE DEN HEIJER works for networking company Cisco Systems. One afternoon earlier this year he was sitting in a café near his offices in Amsterdam, having completed a particularly satisfying piece of work. Sipping coffee and watching the world go by, he wondered if things could get any better.

His reverie was rudely interrupted by a call on his mobile phone from the Dutch police. "We have got some bad news," the voice said. "Your laptop has been stolen from your car. We have caught the culprit, thanks to a passing motorist who gave chase, but the thief threw your laptop into a canal when he saw us coming."

This could have been a disaster for Arie. Cisco encourages its staff

to work electronically as much as possible. This often means dealing with colleagues by e-mail and keeping copies of important documents on their laptops rather than on paper. For Arie to have lost all this material could have cost him his job.

Arie was not particularly concerned, though. Conscious that data back-ups are crucially important to this kind of working environment, Cisco had previously entered into a partnership with the UK start-up company NetStore, whose unique service allows users to back up the contents of their PC to a remote server, using the Internet.

"I had made a back-up the pre-

vious day," Arie explains, "and so within two hours, I had a new laptop with all my data on it. In fact, everything was just as it had been on the machine which is today at the bottom of the canal."

For Arie den Heijer and other users of NetStore, backing up data is becoming the rule rather than the exception, largely because it is so easy to do.

"People tend to be put off by the idea of backing up because of the time and effort it takes," says David Blundell of NetStore.

"They don't realise the importance of doing it until they have experienced critical data loss. And by

then, of course, it is usually too late."

To illustrate the importance of backing up data, Blundell fires off a raft of facts and figures. "We've got research showing that nearly a quarter of stolen computers are nicked from cars," he says, "and around a fifth are stolen in street muggings. That's a lot of mission-critical data that could be come lost for ever if not backed up."

Figures issued by the ITI last year show that 70 per cent of companies that experience data loss across the organisation go out of business within 18 months.

It is this kind of data that has driven the development of NetStore,

and which encourages its use, but fear of data loss alone is not enough. Blundell, who has made both academic and professional study of user interfaces, thinks that ease of use and flexibility are just as important.

"The thing about NetStore," he says, "is that it is extremely straightforward to use, and is completely scalable across an organisation, catering for one staff member or for literally thousands."

"Because we use the Internet, you can back up or retrieve data from anywhere. And, most important, the end user can dictate exactly how they want their back-up to work."

In effect, this means that the software can be configured to dial up and make back-ups at regular intervals, or, if users prefer, it can be run manually - for instance, when you go for a tea break, or at the end of the day. NetStore can also produce log files that can be tailored for specific needs. "We can give IT managers the really important information, such as who is not backing up as often as they should," Blundell says.

One of the crucial questions for any potential user of NetStore concerns data security. NetStore tackles this in several ways. The backed-up data is stored in two separate sites

in different parts of the UK, so that if one goes down the other should be available. Every individual's data is protected by a password, and when someone leaves a company their back-up files are wiped. Forty-bit data encryption is used to provide extra security.

It is not just corporate users who can benefit from the services that NetStore has to offer. A single user licence costs around £10 a month, which, according to Blundell, "is cheap when you consider the peace of mind it delivers in return". Arie den Heijer would probably agree.

Trial access to NetStore is available at <http://www.netstore.net> or call 01344 393768 for more information

Script tease in cyberspace

Closer

<http://www.closer.co.uk>
Patrick Marber's play is already famous for its Internet sex sequence, so its official Web site raises all sorts of expectations. The online encounter, actually a hoax, is briefly sampled from the script, and one character defines the Net as "two boys tossing in cyberspace". Otherwise nothing too risqué, or too self-reflexive: last week's promised cyberchat with the author was prefaced with a warning to keep it clean or be banned. The design follows the play's structure of short dialogues, with selections accompanied, and sometimes overwhelmed, by vaguely apposite quotes from writers such as Dorothy Parker, Philip Roth and - the main inspiration - Noël Coward. Linked in parallel with this, sometimes

WEB SITES

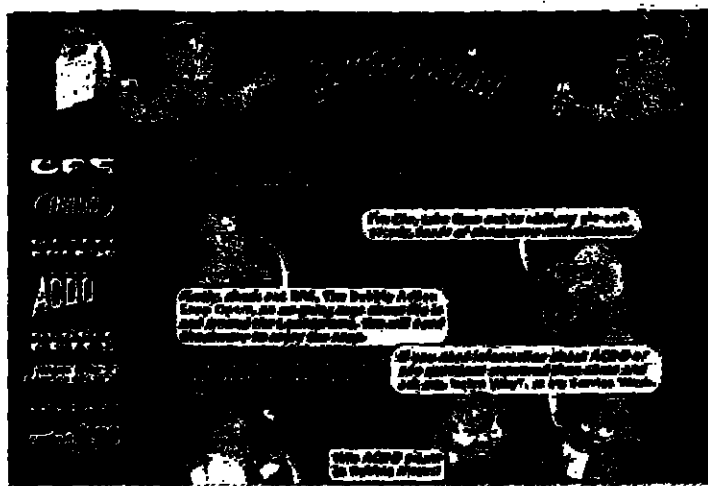
BILL PANNIFER

rather confusingly, are interviews, bios and background on some of the London locations used in the play. Plus a message board, and that all-important online booking facility.

Frank Herholdt
<http://www.frankherholdt.co.uk/>
This photographic portfolio last week took first prize at the Cannes Advertising Festival's new "Cyberlion" awards for interactive marketing. Designed by the creators of the Tate Gallery site, it frames Herholdt's work with lots of quirky Shockwave and stylised camera and viewfinder imagery. The photos themselves range from

elaborate, witty studio tableaux and collages, to the desertscapes and sooty urban monochromes of his more personal stuff, and includes the coke-snorting soccer stars (et al) of his *News of the World* promotion. The design offers a sophisticated sparseness: minimal text and busy but delicate graphics, as though not to compete with the vivid images on display.

The Shapwick Project
<http://www.wkac.ac.uk/shapwick/>
Alex gets on with the manometry survey. Keith does the borehole samples to examine the wetland/dryland interface and Chris is getting really excited by the emerging feature in Trench Y. Meanwhile, the second years are well into the mattocking. "Archeology, live!" sounds like a bit of contradiction, but this long-term survey project,



Laundorama's soap opera (left) is all good clean fun, while the stylish Frank Herholdt site is packed with quirky, cool imagery

which goes back to 1989, will now get a month of daily pictorial updates on the Web, plus interviews with participants. The study aims to examine changes in land use and habitation in the Somerset village, and though it is a new-style, multi-disciplinary investigation, it still hopes to capture "the essence of a traditional British excavation campaign".

ACDO Laundorama
http://www.acdo.co.uk/laundorama/setup_f.html
Soap operas, of course, once really

did sell soap, and this Web version from a Bolton-based maker of specialised detergents is creative enough to send you dashing out immediately in search of some Antibacterial Glo White Wash Booster with Fabrisan. Advanced frame by frame by the viewer and complete with commercial breaks, the animated cast includes gorgeous, pouting Gloria "Glo" White and the sinister Lather Brothers. Elsewhere in this primary-coloured online laundrette you'll find some games - "Attack of the Martian Bubbles" - along with everything

anyone could possibly wish to know about Wonderbar Stain Remover and dozens of other potentially very boring products. Here it's all good, and impeccably clean, fun.

Ghost Sites
<http://www.disobey.com/ghostsites/>
More extremism than archaeology. Steve Baldwin's page doesn't dig up old sites so much as leer at the ones that refuse to go away. Unlike last week's Digital Landfill, no composting or recycling here: instead, each monthly issue tracks down

inoperative, forgotten or "bit-rotted" HTML which, though well past its sell-by date, no one has the courage to retire. Currently the online graveyard includes the 1998 Atlanta Olympics, with its long-dead Webcam, and a 1993 introduction to the Web at Honolulu Community College, with its nostalgic assertion that there are "at least 100 Web servers in use throughout the world".

The aim is to "find, identify and attack the largest, most lumbering, most out-of-date, most derelict sites on the Web".

Net imaging takes a much finer line

WEB DESIGN



JASON
CRANFORD
TEAGUE

Graphics on web
sites are poor due
to some of the
system's basic
design concepts

IF YOU have ever seen a multimedia program running on a CD-Rom, one with an abundance of large, colourful graphics that fit perfectly, you may wonder why the Web can't look like this.

Well, there is the obvious problem of bandwidth, so it takes too long to download all of this glorious content, but there are other reasons that have to do with the fundamental concepts upon which the Web was originally conceived. All it was originally intended to do was to be a quick and easy way for scientists to exchange articles with other scientists. Then someone had the bright idea of adding graphics.

The first graphic format to be introduced to the Web was the relatively obscure Graphic Interchange Format, otherwise known as GIF. I have a pre-Web Photoshop book, circa 1992, which lists different graphic file formats. All it says about GIF is that it was created by CompuServe and is most often used to exchange porno pictures. The more things change... But the original creators of the Web used this format because it recorded complex images as relatively small computer files.

Soon after that, the JPEG format was added as a better way to transfer photographs on the Web. As a result of this early adoption, these two file formats have been the way we have created Web pages ever since. In actuality, both GIF and JPEG are just different ways to do the same thing: they record how a graphic looks by splitting the image into a grid of tiny points and then record the colour of each point. On the computer screen this is called a bit map, where each dot, or bit, is mapped out and its colour and position recorded. Both GIF and JPEG use this bit map method to record an image, differing mostly in the way they compress this information to reduce the file size.

Despite the fact that these formats have served us well, there are several problems:

Large File Sizes - These files are generally quite large since every pixel has to be recorded separately. Even when compressed, they can take seconds, or even minutes, to download and on the Internet that means using less graphic content if you want to keep people's attention.

Unalterable - Once created, these images are difficult to change in an image-editing program and impossible to change online. You can stretch and distort images in the Web browser using the

WIDTH and HEIGHT attributes, but if you actually wanted to change the size of the graphic, forget it. Once displayed in a Web page, that's it.

Static - GIFs and JPEGs can't move on the screen. You can create animations using the GIF format, but those are about as sophisticated as a children's flip animation book and usually create huge computer files leading to long downloads.

So what is the solution? Over the past few years there have been a few attempts to add new graphic file formats to the Web, mostly through the use of plug-ins. None of these have really caught on because they rarely provided significant improvements.

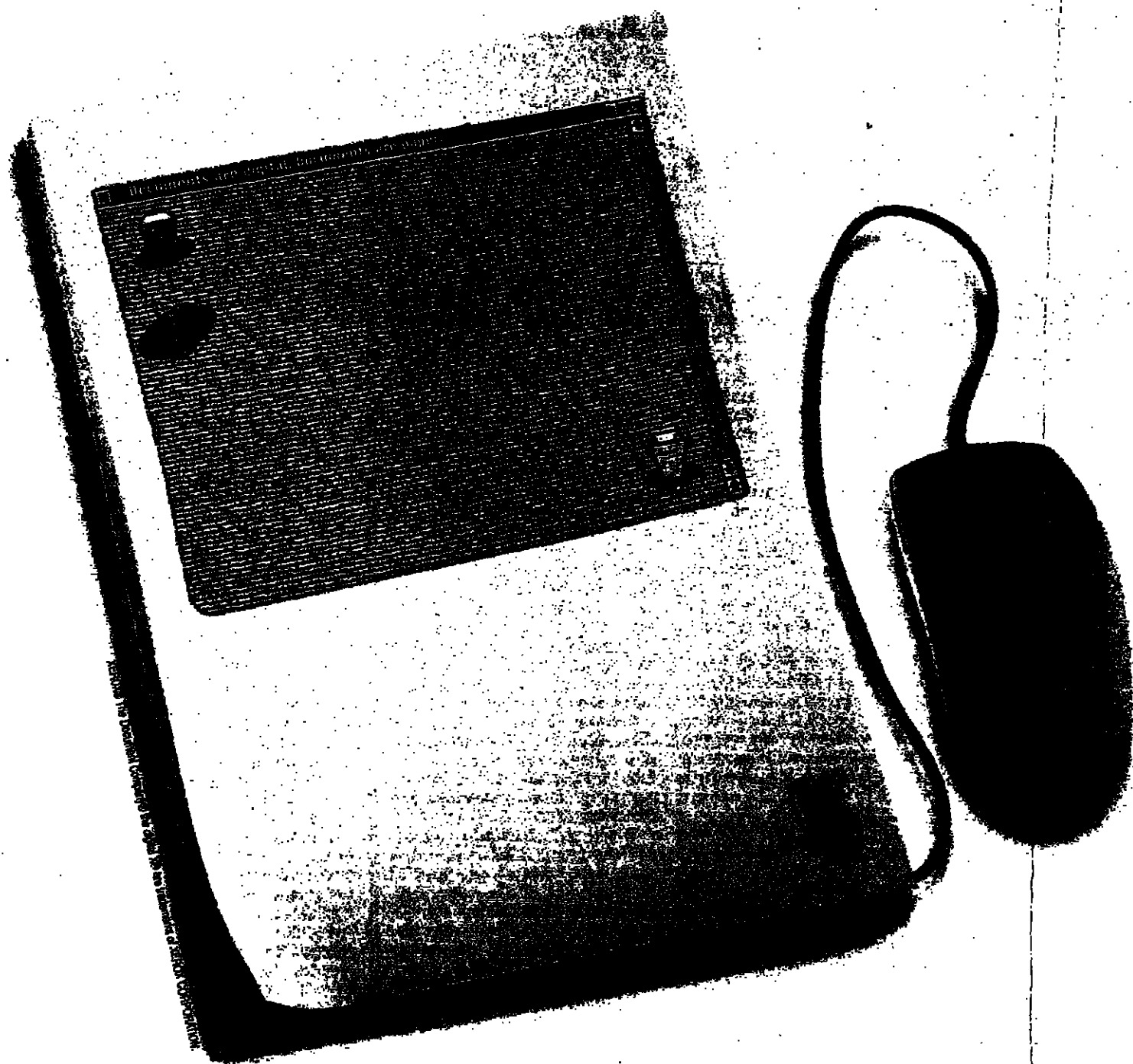
However, just a few weeks ago Macromedia (<http://www.macromedia.com>) proposed that its Flash graphic format be adapted as a standard. Flash records graphics as vectors rather than bitmaps. To draw a line on the screen, a vector graphic tells the computer where the line should start and stop and how thick the line should be, whereas a bit map would have to record each and every dot. Vector graphics can fit a lot of information about a graphic into a small file. Even better, you can resize these graphics at a whim.

The drawbacks? Currently, Flash graphics require the use of a plug-in if you want to use them on a browser. However, Netscape recently announced that its browsers will come with this pre-installed, and Microsoft can't be far behind.

Next week we'll explore the Flash format and vector graphics in greater detail.

E-mail questions or comments to Jason Cranford Teague at indynwebdesign@mindspring.com

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The taxman takes on cyberspace

A loophole that lets you buy goods on the Net, VAT-free is about to close. By Paul Lavin

THE SOUND of tax loopholes slamming shut are being heard on the Net, emanating from Brussels. The European Commission has declared that EU consumers who buy and receive products or services over the Internet should pay VAT on them, even if ordered from a foreigner.

The EC policy paper released this month states that all Net transactions should be taxed as services, marking a "significant change" in EU and European tax practice. At present, private individuals or businesses who buy services from outside the EU do not usually have to pay VAT, which is applied at varying rates in each of the 15 constituent EU countries and can reach 20 per cent of the purchase price. Even online transactions within the EU and within the purchaser's country typically escape VAT for lack of enforcement.

CompuServe has exploited this loophole in the past. The online

service (now part of AOL) claimed its services were delivered from its US-based head office and were therefore not subject to VAT. It worked for years but aroused the ire of European Internet service providers, who found themselves at a commercial disadvantage because they had to add VAT at the local rate to customers' bills. The EC has moved to close that loophole and now seems determined to go one better.

If someone in Europe buys software online today or gets access to a database or downloads some information in a file, that transaction escapes VAT but the Euro-Vatman is now seeking to interpose himself between your credit card and your download. The Commission's position is that purchases sent directly to your PC or network that utterly escape VAT and import duties are

unfair. Those purchases would attract VAT if they were bought in a box off a shelf locally or in another EU member state.

"The absence of such taxation would lead to unfair competition for EU operators who already have to tax their supplies of services for private consumption within the EU," the Commission's policy paper said. This stance, however, is a bit outdated. The future of the software distribution and the computing retail industry seems to be rapidly evolving beyond the traditional disk-in-box-on-shelf model.

In an alignment with the policies announced by the Clinton administration, the European Commission's proposed changes do not amount to a "new" tax. The US is operating under a "no new taxes for the Internet" policy for fear of damaging

the rapid growth of electronic commerce.

The US House of Representatives recently voted to keep the taxman out of cyberspace. "Read my e-mail. No new Net taxes!" remarked Rep Christopher Cox, who sponsored the bill in the House. The bill must be passed by the Senate and then signed by President Clinton before it becomes law.

The bill creates a moratorium for state or local taxes on the access fees that are paid to online service providers such as America Online, CompuServe, or other Internet service providers. Under the proposed law, the eight states that currently impose a special tax on Internet access can continue only if they pass additional legislation, which would be difficult, given the strong "no tax" signal emanating from Washington.

The EC has restated its general agreement with the US stance that purchases made over the Internet or other electronic networks should not be subject to new taxes but it believes that Net commerce should not escape existing taxes such as VAT.

With the growth of electronic commerce, some consumers are already exploiting loopholes even when they take delivery of physical objects such as music CDs. In the UK, a purchase of CDs from the US-based Internet music shop CDNow that amounts to less than \$35 is VAT exempt. Music lovers can still save money buying CDs from America, even when including shipping charges. Orders larger than \$35 are presumably deemed to be worthy of the paperwork necessary to collect the tax. The EC paper proposes no changes to these national practices

However, the Commission's new angle is that goods downloaded electronically should be taxed as a service. The already prodigious enforcement challenge grows, however, when you consider that the EC policy paper goes on to say that VAT should not be applied when a customer from outside the EU orders something from an EU supplier. On the Net no one can tell you whether you are a dog, let alone whether you live in the EU or elsewhere.

The Commission acknowledges that the changes in the tax system will be difficult to implement practically but where there is a will, there will no doubt be a way and that has the ability to send a chill down the spines of users who might object to government sticking its nose into their Internet bit stream or auditing their credit card transactions.

The EC has committed itself to a round of consultation with national governments and business groups to find a way to make it work. Whatever system they come up with must be easy for businesses to implement and escape-proof if it is to work at all for the VATman.

This new policy paper is a step forward from the suggestions made in April 1997 by the EC High Level Expert Group to tax modems or levy a "bit tax" on all Internet traffic. Still, with the Internet's much-vaunted ability to route itself around any impediment, it doesn't take too much perspicacity to predict a "server flight" to jurisdictions that can provide their cyber goods or services beyond the reach of the Euro-Vatman. Given the clear "handis off" signal from Washington, the US could reap the profits of electronic commerce while Europe loses out. EU citizens are unlikely to be taxed without a fight. The Internet offers that choice.

MY TECHNOLOGY

'Luddite? No. But I'm not a slave to machines'

Steven Berkoff, playwright, director and performer, enemy of the mobile phone, uses high-tech cameras to record his life

6 MANKIND HAS become a slave to the machine. He wakes up to it - the fax, the answering machine - then in the car there's a mobile phone. We are inundated, saturated. Ultimately, man has become an appendage to machines.

The only machine I really depend on is a camera. I can't do without it. I use a really nice Nikon F90, which has a 70-210mm lens and another 35-80mm lens. I also have a Pentax FM2. With the camera lens, you have an image that is an instant recollection of a moment.

In every single country I have been to over the last 30 or 40 years, I have never failed to take photographs. These form a valuable record and they have become my friends.

I hate the video camera. To me, it is no longer an art form because it doesn't capture a moment. With the camera, the image is stylised, rather than merely reproducing a moment that you can see with the human eye. Unless, that is, you are making a documentary. For capturing a mood, there is nothing like the still photograph. It evokes a whole period, which couldn't be done with a moving image when you haven't time to dwell, to meditate on the expression on a face, the character or the personality, and wear and tear.

So, my camera is a wonderful mechanism. I prefer one without too many computer parts that do things for you, and you have to read a manual the size of a telephone directory. I like to make my own decisions, read my own light meter.

I love machinery for what it does, but I don't have to be attached to it.

For instance, I will have a mobile phone in the car in case I break down. But generally I think that they are the biggest plague of the age - detestable, abusive - and it means everyone's private world and all its banalities are amplified in every public space, bar, train and café. The sooner they ban them in public the better. I have thought about leaving London just because I can't stand it.

I don't think I am a Luddite. It is obviously necessary to have telephones, answering machines, the Internet and fax machines. I have all these, but I don't use them - I have a secretary. However, as a creative person, I have to be near things that make me creative.

For writing, I have four or five different electric typewriters. I love the feeling of paper and I don't want to look at a television screen or have electrical impulses going into my brain. I like to see the printed word. My typewriters are put in different rooms. One is for prose, one for letters and one for plays. So I have different piles, and three different offices.

I can write anywhere. My notebook is my computer. It doesn't need batteries, just a bit of ink. I believe that the more machinery you have the more you start to need. These things are really only embellishments; they are refinements of what the brain does anyway.

Steven Berkoff's one-man show 'Shakespeare's Villains: a Masterclass in Evil' opens at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket, London (0171-930 8800), on 30 June. He was talking to Jennifer Rodger



In every single country I have been to over the last 30 or 40 years, I have never failed to take photographs. They have become my friends' Neville Elder

Microsoft quietly opens its new Windows

WINDOWS 98 shipped last week, but the event was low key compared with previous Microsoft launches. In Europe, where the release had to compete for publicity with the World Cup, it appeared only on the shelves in Britain and in local language versions in Germany and Spain. French and Italian versions are scheduled for release this week, with other European language versions not due until November.

"We're doing this really differently from in the past," says Susan Smith, head of consumer marketing for Microsoft Europe. "We're running some TV ads in France during the World Cup, but we're really relying on our partners to show the product this time."

Despite the low-profile appearance, sales are expected to reach 12 million by the end of the year. In Britain, 17 PC World stores stayed open beyond midnight, but the queues were short compared with those for Windows 95 three years

ago. Two days before the software release, a US appeals court overturned an injunction obtained by the US Department of Justice (DOJ) that required Microsoft to offer its Windows 95 operating system without requiring computer makers to bundle its Internet Explorer Web browser. Analysts were divided over the precise effects of the judgement on the broader anti-trust case brought by the DOJ and 20 states centred around Windows 98 and Microsoft's business practices. The ruling could undermine the DOJ position in the case, due to be heard in September.

NETSCAPE COMMUNICATIONS is still hanging on to its lead in the Web browser market, according to the latest study by International Data Corporation. IDC measured the number of browsers installed throughout 1997 and showed that although Netscape's Navigator slipped from 54.6 per cent to 50.5

per cent, it still had double the share of Microsoft's Internet Explorer, which rose from 16.4 per cent to 22.8 per cent. AOL's browser, based on IE, climbed to 16.1 per cent from 13.1 per cent, while all other browsers fell from 15.9 per cent to 10.6 per cent. Microsoft gained market share in most sectors, but in small businesses Netscape increased its share by 2 percentage points and in education it still held about 75 per cent of the market.

"It's clear that Netscape has lost market share, but they're still in the lead," says Joan Carol Brigham, an IDC analyst. "It's also important to note that these numbers are relevant to the period before Netscape started giving its browser away."

AMERICA ONLINE last week closed down the SureLike website set up by one of its customers because it carried material

BYTES

ANDY OLDFIELD

deemed to be offensive to Muslims. Scholars at al-Azhar University in Cairo protested about the site and its parodies of Koranic verses, and had threatened to sue AOL for hosting it. An AOL spokeswoman, Tricia Primrose, says several complaints were received. "We have removed that page. Our terms of service are very clear on what we call 'inappropriate content', such as content which is defamatory in nature."

An al-Azhar official says the university was unsure whether AOL was legally responsible, but thought that assisting such a site broke international human rights and heritage conventions. Ahmed al-Taib, dean of al-Azhar's Islamic Studies College, suggests that the university set up a website to

counter "anti-Islamic sites", rather than threatening to sue. That strategy may be more fruitful. In a separate case in the United States last week, the Supreme Court refused to hear a case that accused AOL of liability for material posted on its system.

3DFX INTERACTIVE, maker of brand-leading Voodoo 3D add-on cards championed by the games industry, today unveils a new chip intended to expand its influence into the mainstream PC market. The Voodoo Banshee has 2D and 3D graphics built into a single chip that is claimed to 15 to 17 per cent faster than its rivals. As well as running standard applications, the chip will offer arcade-quality 3D enhancements to 250 games.

"3Dfx has been extremely successful creating a rabid following among the PC gaming community for cards based on their products," claims Geoff Ballew, an analyst at

Dataquest. "They are the brand name. [However, this new market is], very competitive; there are lots of players, and prices are down."

THE CONVERGENCE between PCs and television came a step closer last week with the announcement that AT&T is to buy the cable TV company Tele-Communications Inc in a deal that will be worth up to \$68bn.

By combining AT&T's long-distance phone and Internet services with TCI's cable and telecommunications business the new subsidiary - AT&T Consumer Services - will be able to build the necessary infrastructure for one-stop Internet, cable and phone access via devices such as set-top boxes.

The acquisition, which will also mean AT&T owning local telephone lines for the first time in a decade, will be looked at by the American government, although the Attorney General, Janet Reno,

has said that it has not yet been decided whether the review will be done by the Justice Department or the Federal Trade Commission, another government agency which has responsibility for enforcing anti-trust laws.

THE MAINFRAME manufacturer Amdahl, a California-based unit of Japan's Fujitsu, is expected tomorrow to announce a new generation of mainframes, the Millennium 800 series, that run faster than IBM's newest models due out in August.

IBM's System 390 G5 models will ship with a single processor operating at 125Mips. Up to 10 processors can be employed for a system working at about 900Mips. But Amdahl's machines, due in January, will come with a 125Mips processor; and 12 processors can be linked to work together at 900Mips. IBM has about 67 per cent of the global mainframe market, whereas Amdahl has 10 per cent.

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ABAP/4	Programmer	UK	Logo Partner	1-2 yrs exp	£50K+
SD/MM	Consultant	UK	Consultancy	1-2 yrs exp	£70K+
Project Manager		UK	Logo Partner	1-2 yrs exp	£75K+
EUROPE					
F/CO	Consultant	Europe	Logo Partner	1-2 yrs exp	£65K+
SD/MM	Consultant	Scandinavia	Consultancy	1-2 yrs exp	£60K+
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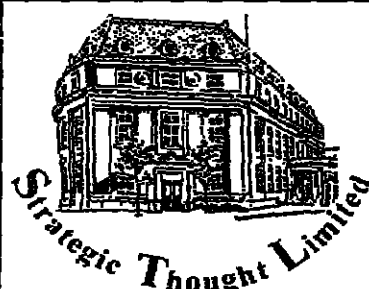
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Are you a good real-time Software Engineer seeking to move towards Team Leadership? We have 6, yes SIX, positions to fill with this well known Comms leader, where degree qualified candidates possessing strong C/C++ skills are wanted to rapidly move into team leader roles. Primary responsibilities will include developing real-time software through its full lifecycle - from specification to coding and test. As you expect in a high technology environment, all the latest development tools will be at your disposal - you don't even need to be from a comms background as full training will be given.

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RLR Business Solutions Ltd requires

Experienced IT staff

with a proven track record for systems analysis, design, development and implementation. The successful applicant will have a minimum of two years experience and ideally educated to degree level. Successful applicants will have experience in any of the following:

- Oracle • Informix • Sybase • MS Access
- PL/SQL • PRO* C • C++
- Visual Basic • UNIX • Visual C++
- Powerbuilder • Windows NT • Netware
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- D2K • SQL • Mainframe Experience

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To arrange an interview or additional
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Alden at:

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Imagine being part of a small team in which a handful of traders and technologists generate in excess of £150 million profit p.a. Imagine that this team is only one of many such small groups, all working on one of the largest trading floors in London, part of one of the most successful global investment banks in the world. Imagine also that, here, technologists are considered such an integral part of the business that they share in the business rewards.

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An excellent technology and maths background is required with an absolute minimum of one year's financial experience gained in either

a bank or financial software house. Your formal education should include a 1st or 2.1 honours degree in Maths, Physics or an engineering discipline from a top university, preferably with a higher degree. You will have experience in at least two of the following:

- Strong C/C++ • NT/Unix
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Remuneration packages (including substantial bonuses) are among the best in the business. Your earnings will be limited only by your ability to generate value.

Cease imagining and, in the strictest confidence, please send your CV and a covering letter including current salary details and daytime telephone number to Craig Millar, Millar Associates, 6 Sloane Street, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 9LE. Tel: 0171 823 2222. Fax: 0171 823 2208. You may also apply via: MillarAssociates@SW1.telnor.com

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IT FOR THE CITY

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to £60K + Bens
This major Investment Bank is looking for a Senior Project Manager with experience of either COIT or FIDES. You will be managing a team of people analysing the requirements involved in replacing COIT with FIDES. You will have a minimum of 5 years experience in Project Management and Front Office trading systems. (Ref: 98/629/MD)

XIAS OR GLOSS SPECIALISTS

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We are working with a number of clients who are seeking people with experience of ACIS XIAS or Wilco's GLOSS systems. Our clients are looking for people at various levels but particularly Business Analysts and Project Managers. Projects include EMU, Y2K, System Implementations and System Conversions. (Ref: 98/189/MD)

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£50 - £60K + Bens
Major American Investment Bank is currently recruiting a number of Systems Developers to work on one of their extremely busy sales floors. You will have a minimum of 3 years experience developing trading systems with any of the following: C++, RPG400, Visual Basic, Visual C++, Unix, Windows NT, Sybase or Oracle. Ideally you will have exposure to Equities, Foreign Exchange, Fixed Income or Derivatives. (Ref: 98/003/MD)

BUSINESS SYSTEM ANALYST

££35K + Bens
Major UK Fund Manager requires a business analyst with a minimum 3 years' experience of fund accounting and/or custody business areas. The successful candidate will be service oriented and will have proven problem analysis and project planning skills. He/she will also have experience of reconciliation practices, data formatting and system data leads and will be familiar with client-server concepts and relational databases (e.g. Oracle or Sybase). This is a newly defined role offering excellent opportunities for both career progression and personal development. (Ref: 98/600/GD)

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££35K + Bens
Investment management firm seeks technically aware analyst with extensive business expertise to act as interface between business units and technology departments in the design, development, testing, deployment and support of a new guideline/regulatory checking system. The ideal candidate will have experience encompassing asset management and investments products, corporate actions and portfolio structures. This position offers the potential to move into a team leading role plus a benefits package which includes a substantial bonus scheme and a first-rate pension plan. (Ref: 98/601/GD)

IT PRODUCTION SERVICES MANAGER

££50K + Bens
Respected financial institution seeks an experienced manager to build and manage a team which will own and manage the "live" IT environment. Objectives will include determining reporting on the live environment and ensuring compliance to Service Level Agreements, both to end users and to other IT groups. The successful candidate will have a thorough understanding of Client-Server techniques combined with a technical appreciation of Unix, and operational and technical knowledge of NT and Novell based desktop systems. Technical competencies will also include relational databases and data warehousing, system management and performance tuning techniques. This position offers excellent career prospects and the opportunity to become a high profile manager with a major City name. (Ref: 98/429/GD)

HELP DESK ANALYST x3

££20K
You will work on a rota basis providing cover between the hours of 7.00am and 7.00pm each working day. Duties will include providing first line support via the telephone or SMS and identifying errors in the central Helpdesk management database. The successful candidate will be educated to 'A' level standard, have previous Helpdesk experience, knowledge of Windows NT and SMS and have good keyboard skills. (Ref: 98/631/TJR)

SYSTEMS ANALYST

£Neg
This role involves providing 3rd line support on all systems within a rapidly expanding Investment Bank. You will be responsible for maintenance of all servers, enhancements to systems on the servers, ensuring the infrastructure is maintained and specifying upgrades or enhancements where necessary. Good knowledge of Windows NT and networking in general is essential. (Ref: 98/633/TJR)

BUSINESS ANALYST

£Neg
Our client, a leading provider of Messaging Software for the financial markets, is currently looking for Business Analysts with a minimum of 4 years in the Financial Markets industry with at least 2 spent in a service related function. A good working knowledge of message delivery systems such as: SWIFT, CREST, etc. tele and fax is a pre-requisite. Exposure to formal project management methodologies would be an advantage. (Ref: 98/635/TJR)

DEALING ROOM PC SUPPORT SUPERVISOR

£Neg
You will be required to provide PC Software and Hardware support to an active Dealing Room. Main responsibilities of the role include handling day to day support activities, supervising around 8 Dealing Room PC Support staff and organising all new PC builds. The successful candidate will have a minimum of 4 years' Dealing Room PC Support experience, a minimum of two years' supervisory experience in a similar environment, Windows NT, Office 97, Routers and Networking. Previous experience of Telecard and Bridge is preferred. (Ref: 98/664/TJR)

PC SUPPORT TECHNICIAN

£Neg
The main purpose of this role is to provide 2nd line support to this leading European Bank across a variety of platforms. You will be required to have knowledge of NT operating system, Microsoft applications, Helpdesk systems, and Back Office systems. Experience of Swift, Train, Bond and system configuration would be advantageous. (Ref: 98/632/TJR)

SDL INTERNATIONAL

SDL International is a leading Software and Multimedia Localisation company with offices in Europe, Japan and the USA

Engineering Manager & Software Engineers

These roles involve building and integrating software resources, plus designing and executing test plans to verify the localised product.

- To ensure software localisation engineering projects are executed efficiently and profitably while maintaining high quality levels
- An excellent knowledge of Windows is required and experience in software integration/programming in DOS and Windows environments would be an advantage
- The Engineering Manager will be responsible for the recruitment and retention of highly competent staff and should have a track record of managing people in a technical environment.

Senior Network Engineer

This role requires an excellent communicator who is able to support an international base of users. The right candidate will be highly reliable, have a high degree of problem solving skills and a wide technical knowledge including TCP/IP, Exchange Server and experience with SGI. An understanding of NT 4.0 (Administration and set-up) is required as well as proven front line support ability and an in-depth knowledge of Windows applications.

Japanese Translators

Salary £14 - 22k depending upon skills and experience
These roles involve translating software and documentation from English into Japanese. Ideal candidates will have experience of technical translation, familiarity with Japanese IT/MS Windows terminology and a good knowledge of Windows software products eg Word and/or Macintosh experience.

Japanese Software Engineers/Translators

Salary £10 - 18k depending upon skills and experience
These roles involve building and integrating Japanese software resources and executing test plans to verify the localised product. Ideal candidates will have a knowledge of MS Windows 3.1, 95 or NT and be Japanese reading.

Senior Chinese Software Engineer/Translator/ DTP Specialist

Salary £17 - 22k depending upon skills and experience
This role involves the translation, DTP and software engineering for localised products. The ideal candidate will have a high degree of computer literacy in UNIX/Windows and Mac environments, combined with excellent Software Engineering/Translation and DTP skills, particularly in high end Desktop Publishing packages. Applicants should be self-starters, qualified to degree level and fluent in Chinese. A knowledge of SGML, LaTeX and TeX would also be a distinct advantage.

Brazilian Portuguese Translators

Salary £14 - 20k depending upon skills and experience
These roles involve translating software and documentation from English into Brazilian Portuguese. Ideal candidates will be fluent in Brazilian Portuguese, have a degree in translation or equivalent and be computer literate with an interest in IT and/or Multimedia/Computer Games. SDL can offer a competitive salary, pension, salary continuation and life assurance as well as a great working environment.

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Action for Blind People is a national charity working for and with people who are blind and partially sighted.

If you enjoy a challenge and have the ability and enthusiasm to develop this project as part of a small friendly team, please contact us for an application pack on 0171 732 8771. For an informal discussion of this post, please contact Cliff Mayes on the above. Please contact Kim Southwood for an application pack by telephone on 0171 732 8771 or in writing to the Personnel Department, Action for Blind People, 14-16 Verney Road, London SE16 3DZ, or email kim_s@abp.org

Closing Date: 10th July 1998



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27 The Poynings, Richings Park, Iver, Bucks SL0 9DS

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- CICS

The successful applicants will be required to carry out development tasks of software systems and would ideally have a proven track record in this field. Salary negotiable, commensurate with experience. Please post /fax CV's to details shown above.



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Public Sector Corporation located in the Peak District requires an IT Product Manager with 4/5 years experience for the position of Product and Publication Manager for its Public Key Infrastructure and related services.

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If you wish to discuss the posts, for Development please contact David White (New Information Systems Manager) on (01473) 583161; for Support please contact Roger Maynard (Customer Information Systems Manager) on (01473) 583160.

For an application pack please contact Personnel, Environment & Transport Department, St Edmund House, Ipswich IP4 1LZ (01473) 583321, (answerphone outside office hours), stating which post number(s) you are interested in.

Closing date: 10 July, 1998.

Interviews will be held in the week commencing 20 July 1998.



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C++ Software Engineer

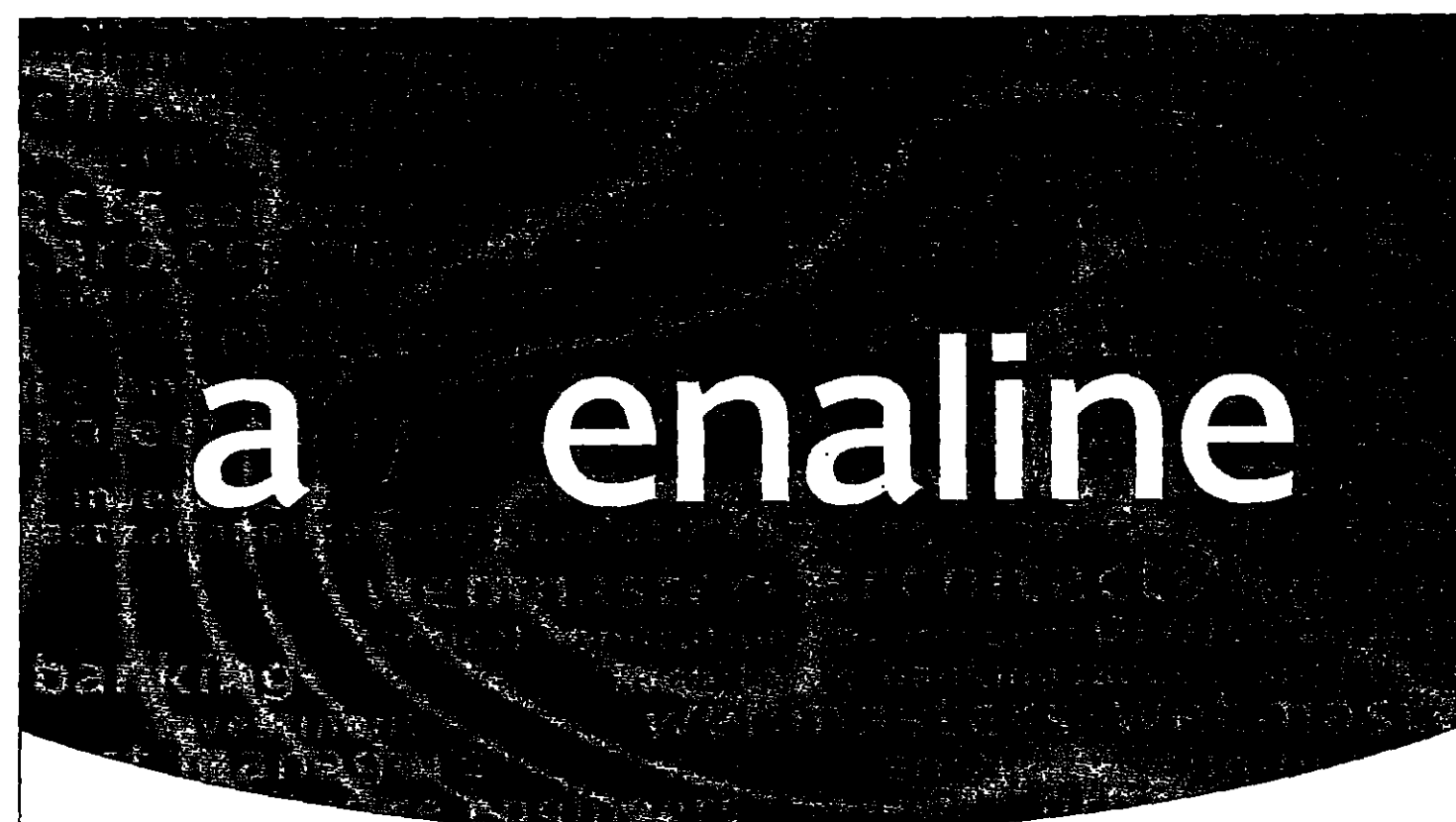
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If you have more than one years experience in developing software with C++ and want to work for a small but rapidly expanding company then this could be for you. The company specialises in the development and support of media storage and retrieval systems and is already the UK market leader. You must also have experience of working in a Windows environment and be intelligent, enthusiastic, self-motivated and determined. Ref: NB-7663/JP

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NEW FILMS

PONETTE (PG)

Director: Jacques Doillon
Starring: Victoire Thivisol, Marie Trintignant, Claire Nebout (subtitles)
Ponette is a precociously intelligent four-year-old girl whose mother dies in a car accident. As the implications of mortality begin to dawn on the child, she takes some comfort in the titbits of religion which she has absorbed, and accordingly awaits her parent's imminent resurrection. While tenderly photographed, the film has nothing very sophisticated to say about grief or childhood.

JOURNEY TO THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD (U)

Director: Manoel de Oliveira
Starring: Marcello Mastroianni, Jean-Yves Gaudin, Leonor Silveira (subtitles)
Featuring Marcello Mastroianni's final performance, this seasoned piece of lament that "the mind can be fine, but the wrapping deteriorates" doesn't apply to the man himself. His disposition, wise and sunny but flecked with both mischief and weariness, is unchanged, but the picture, by the 90-year-old film-maker Manoel de Oliveira, is a grave disappointment.

THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION (15)

Director: Nicholas Hytner
Starring: Jennifer Aniston, Paul Rudd, Alan Alda, John Pankow
The heroine of the bubbly *Cherless* realised that she was in love with her stepbrother, played by Paul Rudd, only after her first choice of boyfriend turned out to be gay. Now it's Rudd's turn to play "Crush the Straight Girl" for this new romantic comedy, in which he confounds his flatmate's dreams of wedding vows and joint burial plots by going and dancing at the other end of the ballroom, so to speak.

GOING ALL THE WAY (15)

Director: Mark Pellington
Starring: Jeremy Davies, Ben Affleck, Amy Locane, Rachel Weisz, Rose McGowan
See *The Independent Recommends*, right

PALMETTO (15)

Director: Volker Schlöndorff
Starring: Woody Harrelson, Elisabeth Shue, Gina Gershon
Each week seems to see the release of yet another ironic modern film noir, the latest edition to the genre being *Palmetto*, directed by Volker Schlöndorff (*The Tin Drum*), but badly missing the wit and precision of John Dahl. Harry Barter (Woody Harrelson) is the ex-writer and ex-con who gets mixed up with a pair of duplicitous women - a glamorous millionaire's wife (Elisabeth Shue) and her stepdaughter, Odette (Chloë Sevigny).

MIMIC (15)

Director: Guillermo Del Toro
Starring: Mira Sorvino, Jeremy Northam, Josh Broin
Ingenious science-fiction-horror fable from the director of the excellent *Cronos*. Mira Sorvino is a doctor who successfully combats a virus that's sweeping New York by developing a rival cockroach species to wipe out the original disease-carriers, in the process inadvertently creating a breed which can assume human form.

GIRLS' NIGHT (15)

Director: Nick Hurran
Starring: Julie Walters, Brenda Blethyn, Kris Kristofferson
Shameless tearjerker with Brenda Blethyn as the cancer-suffering bingo winner who jets off to Las Vegas for a last-chance holiday with her sister-in-law (Julie Walters) and meets a wrinkled rodeo-ster (Kris Kristofferson). Initially bubbly, the picture soon turns grossly manipulative.

THE WAR AT HOME (18)

Director: Emilio Estevez
Starring: Emilio Estevez, Martin Sheen, Kathy Bates, Kimberly Williams
Adapted from James Duff's Broadway play *Homefront*, *The War at Home* is about a traumatised Vietnam veteran returning home to Texas and his traditional family.

Ryan Gilbey

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

Film Ryan Gilbey



RESURRECTION MAN (left) isn't an easy film to watch, though it's a profoundly rewarding one. Young director Marc Evans's second feature charts the rise and fall of a stylish psychopath (Stuart Townsend, mixing chills with charm) indiscriminately lashing out with his Stanley knife in mid-1970s Belfast. The city's mean streets have come right out of the pages of a penny dreadful; the killer is indebted to *Carney*, and so is the movie. On this showing, Evans could be the new Walter Hill.

GOING ALL THE WAY is a rites-of-passage story with a difference: its director, Mark Pellington, has his mind on other things, such as finding a way to depict the fragmented mental state of his young hero (Jeremy Davies), a soldier returning home to small-town America circa 1954. It has its moments.

THEATRE Dominic Cavendish
ELTON JOHN'S GLASSES (below) centres on the Watford FC-obsessed Bill, who blames his club's defeat in the 1984 Cup Final on the popstar's peepers. But David Farr's comedy is not football-mad, more a jokey reminder to live in the present. Brian Conley leads a strong team, ably coached by director Terry Johnson.



Queen's Theatre, London W1 (0171-494 5040) 7.45pm

Literature Judith Palmer

LATE REVIEW Rottweiler Tom Paulin (below) invites the audience to chew over his own work for a change. Paulin-as-Poet is every bit as bracing as Paulin-the-Pundit, his choppy poems full of terse descriptive put-downs and phrasalisms.

THE TROUBADOR 265 Old Brompton Road, London SW5 (0181-354 0660) 8pm, 84-83 Simon Callow holds court in London's oldest church, reading sections of Dostoevsky, Calverley, who whisker-and-waistcoated himself up to read Dickens for the BBC last Christmas, is obviously intent on cornering the market in 18th-century master-novels, as he launches himself into his favourite character-sketches from *The Devils*. Double joy for *Four Weddings and a Funeral* fans, who not only hear Callow, but get him in one of the church settings featured in the film. *Priory Church of St Bartholomew the Great, West Smithfield, London EC1 (0171-438 8891) 6.15pm, £5*



Pop Tim Perry

WITH just piano, bass and drums, **Ben Folds Five** (below) prove it's possible to rock without the six-string. Known for their highly energetic live sets, these collegiate North Carolinians are touring their *Whatever and Ever After* album. An interesting choice of support is Chip Taylor, the fiftysomething who wrote "Wild Thing" and "Angel of the Morning".

The Forum, London NW5 (0171-344 0044) £12.50

The career of Louisiana-born blues guitarist **Buddy Guy** spans 40 years. He's now in Europe for a string of festival dates and this is one of the more intimate settings he and his four-piece band will be playing this summer.

Municipal Hall, Colne, Lancashire (01282 661234) £20



GENERAL RELEASE

AFTERGLOW (15)

Two couples swap partners and wry aphorisms in the latest urbane romantic comedy from writer-director Alan Rudolph.

THE APOSTLE (12)

Director Robert Duvall plunges into his role in a manner that is both terrifying and entrancing.

THE BIG SWAP (18)

Drab, unconvincing and preachy drama played out against Sunday supplement locations.

THE BUTCHER BOY (15)

Neil Jordan's film of Patrick McCabe's blackly comic novel about a manic, precocious 12-year-old in 1960s Ireland has a macabre thrill about it that is genuinely seductive.

CITY OF ANGELS (12)

Nicolas Cage plays an angel puzzling over whether or not to exchange his divinity for domestic bliss with a mortal woman (Meg Ryan).

DAD SAVAGE (18)

Patrick Stewart sheds his *Star Trek* image to play a pulp-growing, Country & Western-obsessed East Anglian crime boss in this stab at re-inventing the British thriller.

DREAM WITH THE FISHES (18)

Here's a recipe for disaster. Take a suicidal loser preparing to throw himself off a bridge. Add a junkie with a month to live and give them some time on the road together before an inevitable tearful farewell. Serve with a sick-bag at the ready. Perhaps it's the realisation that *Dream with the Fishes* could so easily have been a nightmare that makes its success seem refreshing and deserved.

FISTS IN THE POCKET (NC)

A new print of Marco Bellocchio's 1965 classic.

THE FULL MONTY (15)

Re-release of the British blockbuster in which redundant steelworkers turn to stripping.

THE GENERAL (15)

John Boorman's best film in two decades charts the career of Dublin gangster Martin Cahill, who runs rings round the Garda with a series of heists before the IRA put him out of business in 1994.

THE GIRL WITH BRAINS IN HER FEET (15)

A jaunty if unoriginal take on the rites-of-passage genre, set in Leicester at the start of the 1970s. The lively script is complemented by the performance of young actress Joanna Ward who sparkles as the film's heroine.

THE GRASS HARPER (PG)

An adaptation of Truman Capote's novel about lives and loves in a southern American town in the 1940s. A fine cast has been assembled to little effect.

THE HANGING GARDEN (15)

Gay hero, Sweet William, returns home for the wedding of his sister (Kerry Fox), who is marrying the boy that William once had a crush on, in this disarming drama.

THE LAST TIME I COMMITTED SUICIDE (18)

A mangled and vacuous dip into the life of the Beat poet Neal Cassidy, played by Thomas Jane. There's lots of fast cutting and theatrical lighting, but the film amounts to the same Beat clichés: blue smoke, white vests and black coffee, manna.

LIVE FLESH (18)

A novel by Ruth Rendell is the unlikely origin of Pedro Almodóvar's most accomplished film to date, though the action has been shifted to Madrid and crammed with sexual symbolism so potent it leaves you reeling.

THE MAGNIFICENT AMBERSONS (U)

A welcome re-release for Orson Welles' 1942 near-masterpiece about a wealthy family whose conflicting emotions tear them apart.

MY SON THE FANATIC (15)

Hafiz Kureishi establishes an opposition between an agreeable, progressive Pakistani taxi driver and his son, who has his sights set on becoming a fundamentalist Muslim.

NOWHERE (18)

One-man film factory Gregg Araki returns to the latest urbane landscape of *The Doom Generation* with another hallucinatory journey through an LA underground inhabited by young ambisexual drifters, sado-masochists, druggies, airheads - and, this time around, a few aliens for good measure.

POINT BLANK (18)

Re-release of John Boorman's finest film, a chilling existential thriller with Lee Marvin as the gangster Walker.

RED CORNER (15)

Richard Gere's very public pro-Tibet stance must have blinded him to the failings of this chunky piece of anti-Chinese propaganda.

THE REPLACEMENT KILLERS (18)

Executive-produced by Hong Kong action director John Woo, this is an attempt to launch the American career of his favourite star, Chow Yun-Fat. Chow plays a hitman with a conscience who finds himself pursued by both the police and by the mob's "replacement killers".

SAVIOR (18)

Religious inquest war film set during the Bosnian conflict. Dennis Quaid stars as a man who loses his family in a Paris bomb blast and then avenges their deaths by strolling into a mosque and gunning down a row of Muslims at prayer before becoming a hired killer.

THE SCARLET TUNIC (12)

Worthy drama boasting a sparkling performance from Simon Callow.

SOUL FOOD (15)

A black version of *Parenthood*, with all the attendant moralising, sentimentality and studied eccentricity that implies.

STAR KID (PG)

Amiable kid's adventure about a young boy (Joseph Mazzello from *Jurassic Park*) who's called upon to save the universe. What it lacks in budget, it makes up for in imagination.

STIFF UPPER LIPS (15)

Spook of the Merchant/Ivory movies from one of the talents responsible for *Leon the Pig Farmer*.

THE TASTE OF CHERRY (PG)

The winner of last year's Palme d'Or has taken a year to get a release over here, and it's not hard to see why. In *precis* - an Iranian man drives around the outskirts of Tehran looking for someone to help him commit suicide - but thanks to naturalistic performances, it's a hypnotic and moving experience.

A THOUSAND ACRES (15)

When a crotchety but revered farmer (Jason Robards) decides to divide up his land between his three daughters, he is agitated that the youngest (Jennifer Jason Leigh) should question his actions, and promptly excludes her from proceedings. Jessica Lange and Michelle Pfeiffer get to do a lot of crying and bonding, but their talents are wasted, and the film's final bid for tearjerker status is cold and calculated.

TITANIC (12)

Rose (Kate Winslet) is about to marry into obscene wealth, but has deserted her fiancé at the last minute for Jack (Leonardo DiCaprio), a rags-to-riches from the wrong side of the tracks. Is the heat of their passion enough to melt an iceberg?

WASHINGTON SQUARE (PG)

Bringing up the rear of the latest Henry James boom comes the story of the moosey New York heiress (Jennifer Jason Leigh) whose dour father (Albert Finney) forbids her marriage to a dashing but penniless suitor (Ben Chaplin).

THE WEDDING SINGER

A shamelessly dumb but very winning comedy about a romantic wedding singer (*Saturday Night Live*'s Adam Sandler) who falls in love with a waitress (Drew Barrymore), only to find that she's engaged to someone else.

CINEMA

WEST END

AFTERGLOW (15)

Richmond Filmhouse 3.45pm, 6.15pm

THE APOSTLE (12)

Clapham Picture House 2.45pm, 5.45pm, 8.45pm Empire Leicester Square 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm

AS GOOD AS IT GETS (15)

ABC Pantons Street 2pm, 5pm, 8.10pm

THE BIG LEBOWSKI (18)

Warner Village West End 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.55pm, 9.30pm Odeon Camden Town 12.15pm, 5.30pm ABC Pantons Street 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Virgin Fulham Road 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.30pm

THE BIG SWAP (18)

Piazza 3.15pm, 5.55pm, 8.35pm

CITY OF ANGELS (12)

Ritz Cinema 1.50pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Odeon Camden Town 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm Odeon Kensington 7pm, 9.40pm Warner Village West End 12.30pm, 1.40pm, 3.10pm, 4.10pm, 5.50pm, 6.40pm, 8.30pm, 9.20pm Odeon Marble Arch 12.15pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.45pm Barbican Screen 6.15pm, 8.40pm Clapham Picture House 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Notting Hill Corcoran 3pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Virgin Fulham Road 1.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm ABC Bakers Street 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm UCI Whiteleys 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm ABC Tottenham Court Road 1.15pm, 3.55pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm Virgin Haymarket 1.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm

CITIZEN KANE (U)

ABC Pantons Street 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm

DARK CITY (15)

Virgin Trocadero 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Warner Village West End 1.30pm, 6.50pm

DECONSTRUCTING HARRY (18)

ABC Swiss Centre 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

DEEP IMPACT (12)

Virgin Fulham Road 3pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm UCI Whiteleys 3.50pm, 9.25pm Empire Leicester Square 1.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Virgin Trocadero 12.20pm, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.40pm

DREAM WITH THE FISHES (18)

Metro 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

THE GIRL WITH BRAINS IN HER FEET (15)

Rio Cinema 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9pm

GIRLS' NIGHT (15)

Virgin Haymarket 1pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Warner Village West End 1.30pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

GOING ALL THE WAY (18)

ABC Piccadilly 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.10pm

GOOD WILL HUNTING (15)

ABC Pantons Street 2.10pm, 5.15pm, 8.10pm

HAPPY TOGETHER (15)

ABC Swiss Centre 8.20pm

JACKIE BROWN (15)

Piazza 4.15pm, 7.40pm

JOURNEY TO THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD (U)

Renoir 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm

JUNK MAIL (15)

Ritz Cinema 2pm

KUNDUN (12)

ABC Swiss Centre 1.10pm, 3.45pm, 8.20pm

THE LAST TIME I COMMITTED SUICIDE (15)

ABC Piccadilly 1.35pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm

LIVE FLESH (18)

Gates Notting Hill 6.40pm Curzon Minerva 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm

RITZY CINEMA 7.05pm (+ Short Magic Moments) Screen on Baker Street 3.45pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm Odeon Camden Town 2.55pm, 8.30pm Richmond Filmhouse 8.45pm ABC Shaftesbury Avenue 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.25pm

LOLITA (18)

Warner Village West End 11.40am, 2.25pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm

MARTHA - MEET FRANK, DANIEL & LAURENCE (15)

ABC Swiss Centre 3.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm

MIMIC (15)

Virgin Chelsea 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Odeon Marble Arch 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm Odeon Camden Town 12.20pm, 3.20pm, 5.55pm, 8.10pm Warner Village West End 1.20pm, 3.55pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Virgin Trocadero 12.50pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm UCI Whiteleys 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

MY SON THE FANATIC (15)

ABC Swiss Centre 1.10pm, 5.10pm

THE OBJECT OF MY AFFECTION (15)

Phoenix Cinema 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm UCI Whiteleys 3.55pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm Odeon Kensington 6.50pm, 9.35pm Screen on Baker Street 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm Ritz Cinema 1.45pm, 4.10pm, 6.35pm, 9pm ABC Tottenham Court Road 1.5pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm Odeon Camden Town 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.25pm, 9pm Odeon West End 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Odeon Marble Arch 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm Screen on the Hill 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm Virgin Chelsea 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.30pm

PALMETTO (15)

UCI Whiteleys 3.40pm, 6.15pm, 8.55pm Warner Village West End 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm Virgin Trocadero 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.50pm Virgin Fulham Road 1.20pm, 3.55pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

POINT BLANK (18)

Gates Notting Hill 1.55pm, 4.15pm, 6.55pm Screen on the Hill 4.50pm, 9pm

PONETTE (15)

Metro 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Curzon Mayfair 1.05pm, 3.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm (+ Short: Stone Tears)

RED CORNER (15)

Odeon Marble Arch 12.20pm, 3.15pm, 6.10pm, 9pm UCI Whiteleys 6.40pm Piazza 3.10pm, 8.30pm

REGENERATION (15)

Ritz Cinema 3.35pm (+ All Quiet on the Western Front)

THE REPLACEMENT KILLERS (18)

Virgin Trocadero 12.20pm, 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 9pm

SAVIOR (18)

Virgin Haymarket 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

SCREAM 2 (18)

Warner Village West End 4.05pm, 9.15pm

SHALL WE DANCE? (PG)

MONDAY RADIO

RADIO 1

(97.5-98.5MHz FM)
6.30 Kevin Greening and Zoe Ball.
9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Jo.
1.00 Dave Pearce. 3.30 Steve Lamacq -
the Evening Session. 6.30 Global
Update. 8.40 Andy Kershaw.
10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs. 1.00
Cive Warren. 4.00 Chris Moyles.

RADIO 2

(88-90.2MHz FM)
6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake
Up to Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce.
12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed
Stewart. 3.05 Johnnie Walker.
7.00 Humphrey Lyttelton. 8.00 Big
Band Special. 8.30 Radio 2 Young
Musician 1998 - The Final. 9.30
Joe Brown's Good Night. 10.00
10.30 Richard Allison. 12.05
Steve Madden. 3.00 Alex Lester.

RADIO 3

(90.2-92.4MHz FM)
6.00 On Air.
9.00 Masterworks.
10.30 Artist of the Week.
11.00 Sound Stories.
12.00 Composer of the Week:
Samuel Barber.
1.00 Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert.
2.00 The BBC Orchestra.
4.00 Sams at the Opera.
4.45 Music Machine.
5.00 In Tune.

RADIO 4

(92.4-94.6MHz FM)
6.00 Today.
9.00 Start the Week.
9.45 Serial: The Doctor, the
Detective and Arthur Conan Doyle.
10.00 NEWS: Woman's Hour.
11.00 NEWS: Impostors. (R)
11.30 Ballylenon.
12.00 NEWS: You and Yours.
1.00 The World at One.
1.30 Mastermind.
2.00 NEWS: The Archers.
2.15 NEWS: Afternoon Play:
Divided Harvest.
3.00 Money Box Live. (0171)
580 4444.

RADIO 5

(93.9-95.1MHz FM)
6.00 Nicky Campbell.
9.00 The Breakfast Programme.
12.00 The Midday News.
1.00 Wimbledon and World Cup
7.55 World Cup 98. Commentary
from Toulouse on the second-
phase game between the group E
winners and Group F runners-up.
10.00 Late Night Live. Nick
Robinson sets tomorrow's agenda
today. Including at 10.30 a full
round-up of the day's sport, and at
11.00 a late news briefing.
1.00 Up All Night.
5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.
Classic FM
(100.0-101.9MHz FM)
6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry
Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00
Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Cullum. 6.30
Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics
at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert.
10.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto.
3.00 - 4.00 Mark Griffiths.

RADIO 6

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 7

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 8

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 9

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 10

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 11

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 12

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 13

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 14

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 15

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 16

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 17

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 18

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 19

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 20

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 21

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 22

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 23

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 24

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 25

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 26

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 27

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 28

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 29

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 30

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 31

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 32

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 33

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 34

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 35

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 36

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 37

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 38

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 39

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 40

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 41

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 42

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 43

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 44

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 45

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 46

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 47

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 48

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 49

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

RADIO 50

(125.1-126.0MHz MW 105.8MHz FM)
7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ
Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00
Robin Banks/FM only Ray Cokes
from 6.45pm. 7.30 Ray Cokes.
10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 Cairn
Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

PICK OF THE DAY

FOR THIS week's Postscript
strand, Ian Peacock channel-
hopped around the United
States to see what the nation's
radio and television tell us about
this American Life (9.15pm
Tues). The idea has been done
before, but never better. That's
partly because Peacock (whose
previous radio exploits include
a radio soap opera featuring
actual soap) has a rare eye for
the telling eccentricity, partly
because his faintly plodding,

anorakish delivery contrasts
tellingly with the manic gimme-
gimme buzz of American
broadcasting. More extremities
are explored in Life on the
Edge (9pm Wed). The first of two
programmes about how nature
copes with extremes of climate
takes Geoff Watts to the Arctic
(right), where he encounters
a wonder-world of low meta-
bolic rates, natural anti-freeze
and blubber.

ROBERT HANKS



simply stares at the camera for
half an hour. Here, free speech rules,
and Woody Allen is nowhere in
sight. See Pick of the Day.

9.35 Mrs Beach. Piano music by
the American composer Amy
Beach, including her "Four
Sketches" and "Hermit Thrush"
played by Virginia Eakin.

10.00 Voices. In anticipation of
Gay Pride Day next Saturday, Ian
Burnside presents songs by men
and women celebrating who they
are and what they are.

10.45 Mixing it. Robert Wyatt
chooses three tracks that are
currently making a big impression
on him.

11.30 Jazz Notes.
12.00 Composer of the Week: Carl
Philipp Emanuel Bach. (R)

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

RADIO 4
(92.4-94.6MHz FM)
6.00 Today.
9.00 Start the Week.

9.45 Serial: The Doctor, the
Detective and Arthur Conan Doyle.
10.00 NEWS: Woman's Hour.

11.00 NEWS: Impostors. (R)
11.30 Ballylenon.
12.00 NEWS: You and Yours.

1.00 The World at One.
1.30 Mastermind.
2.00 NEWS: The Archers.

2.15 NEWS: Afternoon Play:
Divided Harvest.
3.00 Money Box Live. (0171)
580 4444.

3.30 Elementary My Dear Rankin.
3.45 Crime Stories.
4.00 NEWS: The Food
Programme.

4.30 Four Corners.
5.00 PM.
6.00 Six O'Clock News.

6.30 Just a Minute.
7.00 NEWS: The Archers.
7.15 Front Row. Mark Lawson
chairs the night arts programme.

In this edition, he combs the
bookshelves in search of this
summer's essential reading.
7.45 Under One Roof: Under
Pressure. By Mike Walker, based on
the original story by Michele
Hanson. Gillian attempts to restore
the art of conversation by
disconnecting the family television.

Part 1 of 5. With Paola Dionisotti,
Edna Dore, Linda Bradshaw-White
and Irene Sutcliffe. Director Cathryn
Horn.

8.00 NEWS: Going Underground.
Five families are moving into new
homes with a difference - built
underground, they have no central
heating and are not connected to
mains water or sewage. Gill
Dunnigan asks if they provide
lessons about living in a more
environmentally friendly way. (R)

8.30 Analysis. 'Doing it Their Way'.
Tony Blair claims to have found a
"third way" between the old left and
the new right. Does his
government's record in office
indicate a distinctive new ideology
or a pragmatic adoption of popular
policies? Frances Cairncross asks

what Labour's latest big idea really
adds up to.

9.00 NEWS: Life on the Edge. Life
is found almost everywhere on
Earth, often in the most extreme
conditions. In the first of two
programmes, Geoff Watts travels to
the Arctic Ocean to find out how
nature survives the cold. See Pick
of the Day.

9.30 Start the Week. Conversation
with Melvyn Bragg and guests.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Scarlet
and Black. By Stendhal, read in ten
parts by Greg Wise, abridged by
Micheline Wandor. 8: Julien enters
high society at last - as secretary
to the Marquis. (R)

11.00 Radio 4 Appeal. Nick
Higham speaks on behalf of the
Tuberculosis Sclerosis Association.
11.02 Our Man at Wembley.
11.30 A Night with...

12.00 News.
12.30 The Late Book: Bombay Ice.
12.48 Shipping Forecast.
1.00 As World Service.

5.30 World News.
5.35 Shipping Forecast.
5.40 Inshore Forecast.
5.45 Prayer for the Day.



THOMAS SUTCLIFFE

TELEVISION REVIEW

THERE WAS a brief moment on Saturday afternoon when the BBC was broadcasting the sight of rain-pattered lamp-posts on both of its channels, an unusually zealous celebration of that annual festival of precipitation - Wimbledon Rainfall.

In recent years another event has been added to the British calendar of unbroken television and just as Wimbledon has come to be associated with close-ups of raindrops bouncing off the umbrellas of staid fans, so the Glasgow City Festival (GCF) is not really complete without the occasional vegetable of a blase-out youth belly-flopping into two feet of well-cumtured slurry.

This doesn't seem to be a hindrance to the enjoyment of these presenters; it is an essential part of it - mentioned in virtually every programme trail and alluded to with an unmistakable role of pride by those delivering the links.

"Glasgow is the only place in the universe where you can wear a wellie and it's cool," said a medley babe during one of the video diary segments that fill the gaps between performances, and sure enough, there was Jodie Holt in a pair of gumboots, proudly pointing to the only bit of grass left in Glasgow - a small patch of turf which had been protected by its rather hairy hairpin curl.

Some festival goers wisely customise their footwear with bling-bling gizmos made out of bin-bags and gutter tape but if you want to get truly into the spirit of the event you have to abandon thoughts of keeping sloop and skin apart, John Peel allowed the way by interposing by which those impeccably re-wetted and the bottom of his shorts but a pair of pale, mud-splattered legs and even one of the cameras was wearing a fetching splash of brown across its lens after being christened by an enthusiastic mud-slinger (the medley babe were seen shuddering that their all-white costumes would prove an irresistible target for such enthusiasts).

Peel, who looked like an unsuccessful prototype for a grunge-garden gnome, was in good form - his act of genital lubrication nicely matched to the soundtrack. But it was his co-host Jo Wiley who offered the most vividly queerly depicted of the site courtesy of her wacky daughter Linda. "Mummy," she had said, "it's just like God's been sick all over Glasgow."

We weren't told whether this was before or after Linda had been introduced to the septic realities of life in the gutter. In all their clogged and mephitic horror, by another television, the overwrought sense of rain that you aren't there yourself.

Quite a few arts programmes these days are not concerned with art as such but with artists in trouble - BBC's TV seemed to cover little else in its last series - or with artists that have an artistic component. Last night's Ardmore Channel 4 was a good case in point - a documentary about an attempt to recover family pictures looted by the Nazis, a quest that has now ended up in the American courts.

Christopher Spencer's film elegantly traced the process by which the paintings had left the Gutman family collection and by which the surviving relatives had finally traced at least one of them - a Deges pastel that had been deemed too "degenerate" to enter a Nazi collection and had ended up at a much-disputed auction, bolstering the self-esteem of a Chicago pharmaceuticals billionaire.

There were tangential artistic considerations here - another angle on the old conundrum of how far man can aestheticise his art - but no real aesthetic ones. The lost object could have been a bang (quasi) vase or a rare clock and the film would not have been any different, because it was really about business, not art - in particular the careful ignorance by which those impeccably re-wetted and the bottom of his shorts but a pair of pale, mud-splattered legs and even one of the cameras was wearing a fetching splash of brown across its lens after being christened by an enthusiastic mud-slinger (the medley babe were seen shuddering that their all-white costumes would prove an irresistible target for such enthusiasts).

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BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (833/9). **7.00 News** (T) (88823). **9.00** *At the Shop* (R) (S) (590542). **9.20** *Knots* (T) (T) (48858). **10.00** *Meet the Challenge* (S) (200387). **10.25** *Style Challenge* (S) (488020). **10.50** *News* (Regional News: Weather (T) (223227), 11.05 *Around the World in 80 Days* (S) (T) (14747). **11.35** *News* (Regional News: Weather (84287), 12.00 *Every Second Counts* (R) (S) (T) (7287). **12.30** *News* (S) (875438). **12.55** *Well Worth a Wait* (S) (488742). **1.00** *News* (Weather (T) (875438). **1.30** *Regional News* (87247). **1.40** *Wimbledon 98* (S) (871897).

3.15 *Wimbledon 98*. Live coverage from the All England Club, as the remaining 16 men and women compete for places in the quarter-finals (889388). **5.35** *Neighbours*. Josh has been living to Calin, the truth is out about Todd, and Geoff wins a step too far. I don't know either, ask a teenager (S) (T) (74894).

6.00 *News* (Weather (T) (728).

6.30 *Regional News*. With local weather (T) (838).

7.00 *EastEnders*. Should Sarah hold her tongue or risk her mother's happiness? For the sake of the salting soap, let's hope she does the wrong thing (S) (T) (838).

7.30 *World Cup 98 Live: Netherlands vs Yugoslavia*. Live action from the evening's second-round game at the Stade Municipal in Toulouse (kick-off at 8pm). After that disappointing opener against Belgium, the Dutch seem to be hitting their stride in France 98 at just the right time. They meet the famous Yugoslavs in the tie of the day. Be warned, though, it may not be pretty. See Liam's preview.

8.00 *News* (Weather (S) (T) (5383).

8.30 *The Travel Show*. Juliet Morris does Jamaica, while Jim White and David try a quintessential family holiday along the Norfolk Broads (S) (T) (538).

9.00 *The Simpsons*. Homer provides industrial unrest when Mr Burns tries to take dental benefits out of the employees benefit package (R) (S) (T) (2827).

9.30 *Today at Wimbledon*. Sue Barker introduces highlights of the day's play at Wimbledon. It's the final day of the competition, and the competition is hot. It's early pairs (Caribbean Sports) (S) (T) (67478).

10.00 *News* (Regional News: Weather (T) (8278).

10.30 *News* (Regional News: Weather (T) (8278).

11.00 *News* (Regional News: Weather (T) (8278).

BBC2

6.10 *The Golden Thread* (747/438). **6.35** *Just Like a Girl* (241022).

7.00 *Children's BBC*. *Teletubbies* (S) (253497). **7.25** *Goosebumps and the Ghost Chasers* (S) (482542). **7.45** *Blue Peter* (S) (T) (782287). **8.40** *Yogi's Space Race* (772870). **9.25** *Handy Andy* (S) (T) (783539). **9.45** *Harry and the Hendersons* (R) (S) (T) (488504). **9.50** *A Passion for Angling* (S) (T) (882487). **10.00** *Teletubbies* (S) (747542). **10.30** *The History Man* (R) (827405).

10.40 *So Long at the Fair* (Janet Felter and Anthony Danforth, 1950 UK). Hackneyed mystery set during the 1889 Paris Exposition in which Jean Simmons checks into a hotel with her brother and wakes up to discover that he has disappeared. Artist Dirk Bogarde helps out, and you know where that ends up (885875).

12.00 *Wimbledon 98* (S) (434489). **2.40** *News* (Regional News: Weather (T) (731894).

2.45 *Wimbledon 98*. Continued live coverage of the day's play from Wimbledon, introduced by Sue Barker and Steve Rick. Week two begins with the fourth round of the men's singles, as the weather has belated itself. The commentators are (take a deep breath) John Barrett, John Alexander, Chris Bailey, Jeremy Bates, Pat Cash, Nick Cox, Jo Durie, Ann Jones, David Mercer, Pam Shriver, Virginia Wade, Bill Tietzel and Julien Tuti (S) (888414).

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4.15 *Made in Manchester* (S) (283220). **4.45** *Last in France* (S) (T) (40322). **12.00** *The Midnight Hour* (8278). **12.30** *BBC Learning Zone*. Open University: Continuing Education (R/479). **1.00** *Extrix* from *Dialogue in the Dark* by Michael Giralet (82740). **1.30** *Swire*. Gateway to the future (7780). **2.00** *Body Matters*. Nuts and bolts of the mind (8785). **3.00** *MI-6* - a window into the human body (1489). **4.00** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **4.30** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **5.00** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **5.30** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **6.00** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **6.30** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **7.00** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **7.30** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **8.00** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **8.30** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **9.00** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **9.30** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **10.00** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **10.30** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **11.00** *World Cup* - a window into the human body (1489). **11.30** *World Cup* - 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